KIA ASAMIYA'S

NADESICO

BOOK TWO

BOOK TWO

Kia Asamiya

CPM®
MANGA
New York, New York

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Nadesico Book Two published by CPM Manga a division of Central Park Media Corporation, 250 W 57th St., New York, New York 10107 (212) 977-7456 ext. 241. Entire contents © 1999, 2000, 2001 Central Park Media Corporation. Professionally translated and published under license from the original publishers for sale in the United States and Canada only. Original Japanese version *Meteor Schlactschiff Nadesico* Volume 2 © 1997 Kia Asamiya. Originally published in Japan in 1997 by Kadokawa Shoten Publishing Co. Ltd., Tokyo. English translation rights arranged with Kadokawas Shoten Publishing Co. Ltd. Tokyo through Tohan Corporation, Tokyo. English language version © 1999, 2000, 2001 Central Park Media Corporation. Central Park Media is a registered trademark of Central Park Media Corporation. CPM Manga and the CPM Manga logo are registered trademarks of Central Park Media Corporation. CPM Comics is a trademark of Central Park Media. All rights reserved.

ISBN 1-56219-941-2
Printed in Canada

First Printing: April 2001
1 2 3 4 5 05 04 03 02 01

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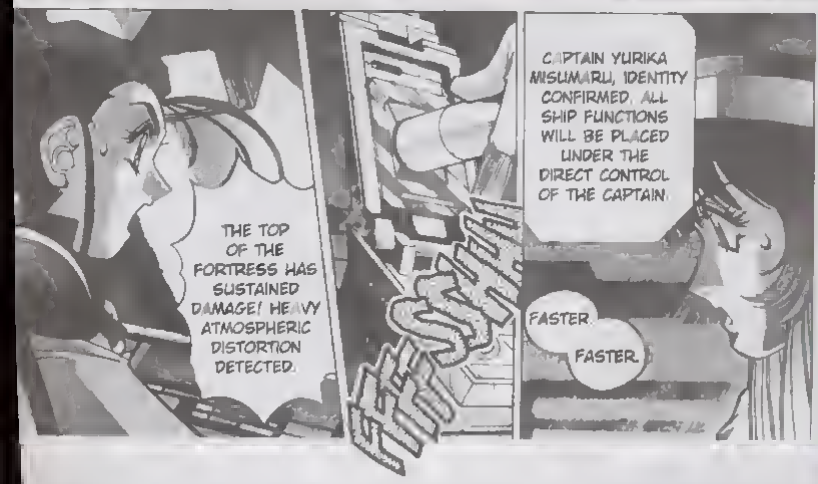
2195 A.D. The invasion of Mars began when a mysterious flying object from Jupiter, a monolith, suddenly appeared. Though the United Earth Government took large scale military action against the Jupiterians, they lost Mars. After taking Mars, the Jupiterian's invasion has now extended to Earth.

2196 A.D, the month of October. The United Earth Government Research Facility Nergal Conglomerate leads the project to recover equipment and rescue survivors from the Mars Research Center. With the space battleship Nadesico, the female captain, Yurika Misumaru, and her remarkable crew took off for Mars to carrry out this project. The United Earth Government, which had been amazed by the Nadesico's powerful fighting capability, brings its attempt to take control of the space battleship to a conclusion. With Mars before them, Nadesico is confronted by the United Earth Government space battleship Haguga and the Jupiterian's floating fortress.

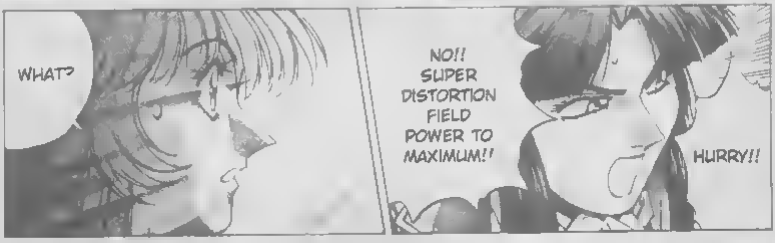
YOUR ORDERS, CAPTAIN?!
UMMMMM
I CAN'T STAND THIS ANYMORE. I'M GOING TO ATTACK!!
WHAT? CAPTAIN!!
TOK TOK
WHAT'S WRONG WITH HER?
SHE'S MORE CONCERNED ABOUT THE WARSHIP NEXT TO US THAN THE FORTRESS IN FRONT OF US.
OH OO OW

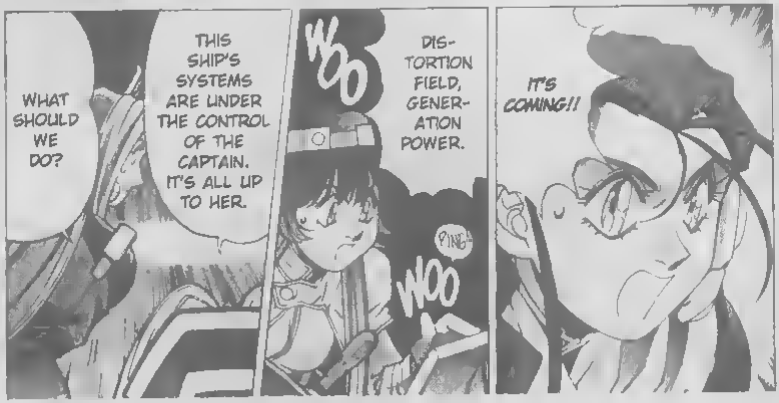
第7話 火星に墜つ
A FALL INTO MARS


THE TOP OF THE FORTRESS HAS SUSTAINED DAMAGE! HEAVY ATMOSPHERIC DISTORTION DETECTED.
CAPTAIN YURIKA MISUMARU, IDENTITY CONFIRMED. ALL SHIP FUNCTIONS WILL BE PLACED UNDER THE DIRECT CONTROL OF THE CAPTAIN.
FASTER.
FASTER.

HHRMM
HHRMMM
VOOOSHHHH
WRR
SHHH
RSHH
HUH? I CAN'T MOVE THE STEERING CONTROL.

EVERY-ONE, BRACE YOUR-SELVES!!
HUH ...?
O... O... O.K.
WHAT? THAT VOICE..
WOOOO
Woo
vWoo
OOSH
THK
ALRIGHT, KAGUYA! THIS FIGHT IS BETWEEN YOU AND ME!!
SHE'S HERE
RRRR
RRRMMM

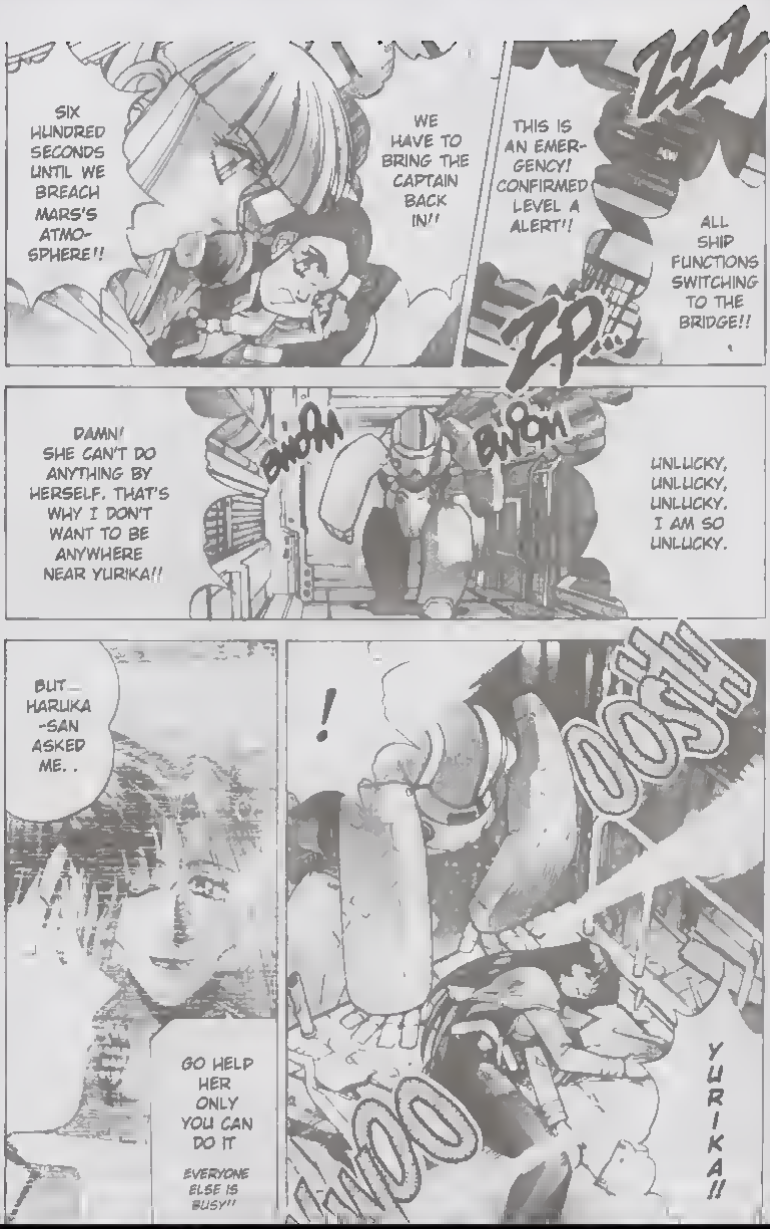

WHAT?
NO!! SUPER DISTORTION FIELD POWER TO MAXIMUM!!
HURRY!!

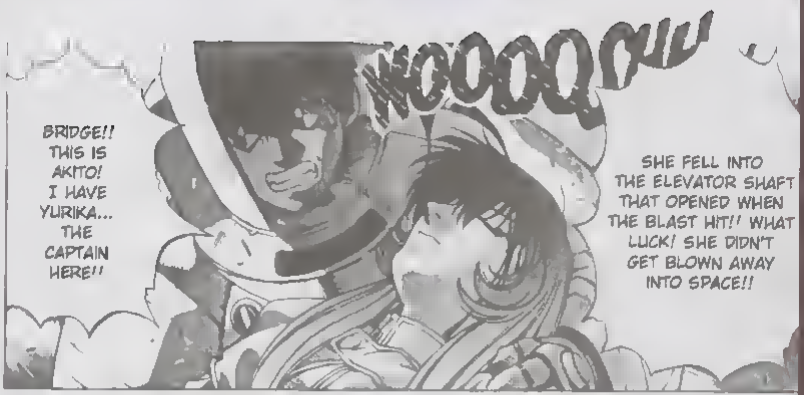

WHAT SHOULD WE DO?
THIS SHIP'S SYSTEMS ARE UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE CAPTAIN. IT'S ALL UP TO HER.
WOO
DIS-TORTION FIELD, GENER-ATION POWER.
PING
WOO
IT'S COMING!!

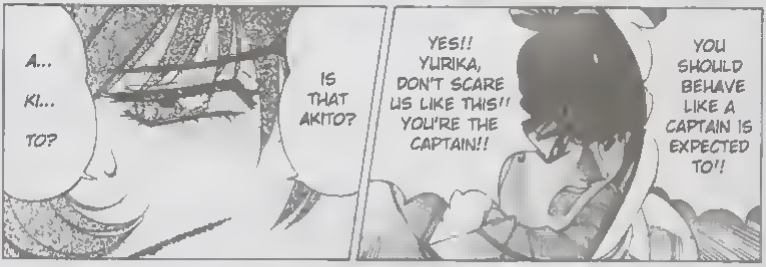
KIIIYAAAAA!!
THE NADESICO HAS SUFFERED HEAVY DAMAGE!! THE KAGUYA'S FIELD HAS DISSIPATED!!
GET ME A STATUS REPORT ON THE NADESICO!!

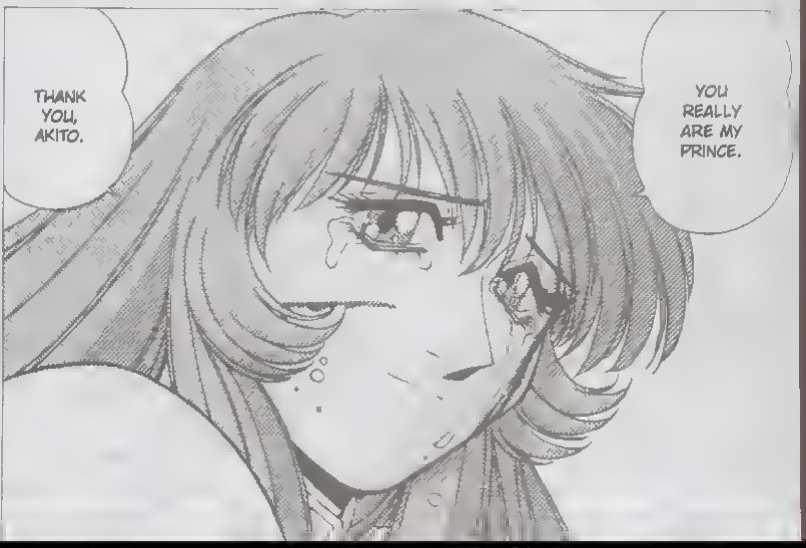
NADESICO'S DAMAGE AT FIFTY-THREE PERCENT. SHE'S FALLING TOWARD MARS!!
GO AFTER NADESICO!!
THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE! IF WE GET HIT BY A SECOND WAVE FROM THAT FORTRESS, WE'RE GOING DOWN JUST LIKE THE NADESICO!
WE SHOULD LEAVE, CAPTAIN!!
THE NADESICO'S DONE FOR!! WE SHOULD LEAVE TO FIGHT ANOTHER DAY!!
SOH
MEN!!
FWOO
I...I AM A WOMAN.

NO. I'M NOT YOUR PRINCE
BE-CAUSE.. YOU KNOW. .
IF I WAS A PRINCE, I SHOULDN'T HAVE TO RESCUE YOU AFTER YOU'RE IN DANGER. I SHOULD TAKE CARE OF YOU BEFORE THE TROUBLE BEGINS.
I'M SORRY, YURIKA. I...
I... CAN'T BE YOUR PRINCE.
SO WHAT DO YOU WANT TO BE?
WHAT?
HARUKA .
WHAT DO I WANT TO BE ...
WHAT . ?


SIX HUNDRED SECONDS UNTIL WE BREACH MARS'S ATMO-SPHERE!!
WE HAVE TO BRING THE CAPTAIN BACK IN!!
THIS IS AN EMER-GENCY! CONFIRMED LEVEL A ALERT!!
ZZZZ
ZP
ALL SHIP FUNCTIONS SWITCHING TO THE BRIDGE!!
DAMN! SHE CAN'T DO ANYTHING BY HERSELF. THAT'S WHY I DON'T WANT TO BE ANYWHERE NEAR YURIKA!!
BWOM
BWOM
UNLUCKY, UNLUCKY, UNLUCKY. I AM SO UNLUCKY.
BUT— HARUKA -SAN ASKED ME..
GO HELP HER ONLY YOU CAN DO IT
EVERYONE ELSE IS BUSY!!
!
!!SOS!!
YURIKA!!

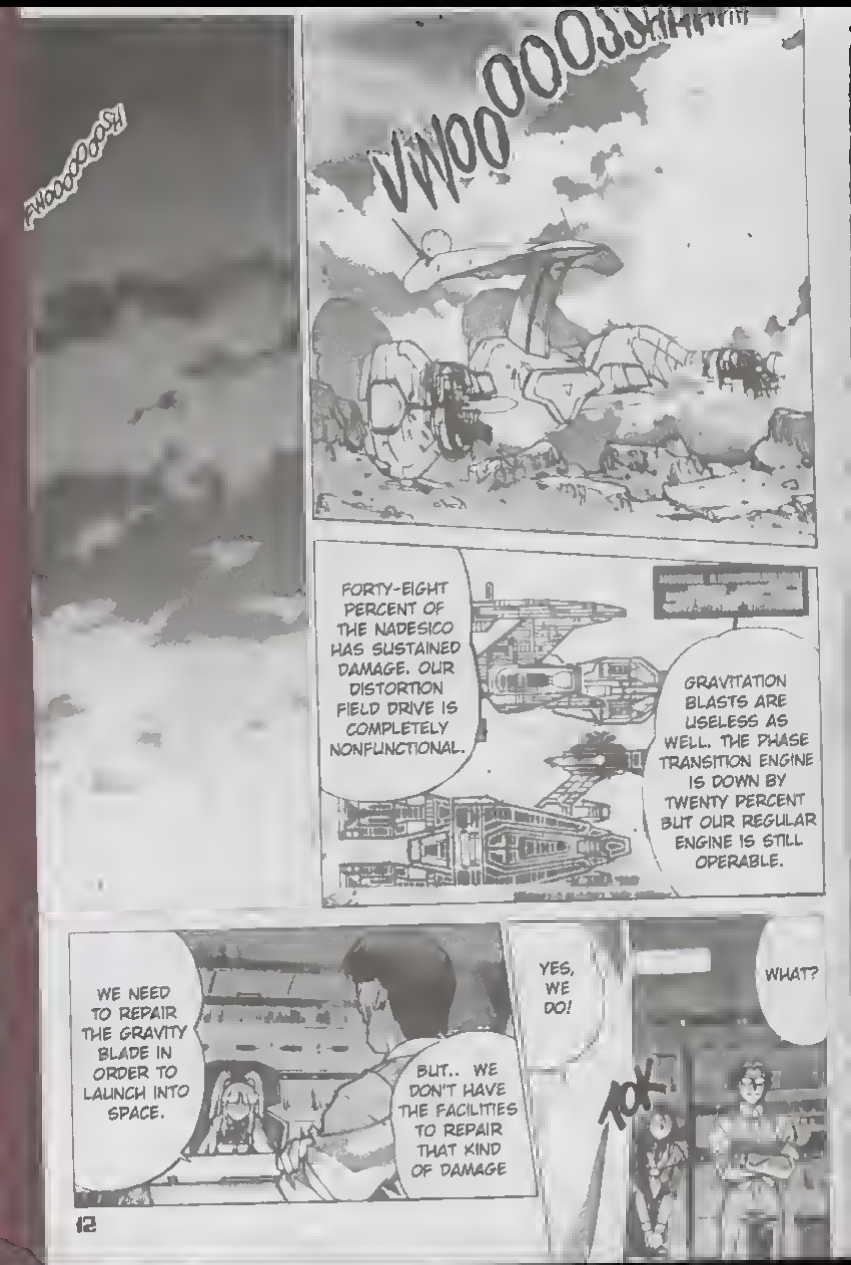

WOOOOOW
BRIDGE!! THIS IS AKITO! I HAVE YURIKA... THE CAPTAIN HERE!!
SHE FELL INTO THE ELEVATOR SHAFT THAT OPENED WHEN THE BLAST HIT!! WHAT LUCK! SHE DIDN'T GET BLOWN AWAY INTO SPACE!!


A...
KI...
TO?
IS THAT AKITO?
YES!! YURIKA, DON'T SCARE US LIKE THIS!! YOU'RE THE CAPTAIN!!
YOU SHOULD BEHAVE LIKE A CAPTAIN IS EXPECTED TO!!


THANK YOU, AKITO.
YOU REALLY ARE MY PRINCE.

FAINT
HUH? HEY, YURIKA?! ANSWER ME!!
YURIKA!!
WE'RE ENTERING MARS'S ATMOSPHERE
BEEP
BING
ALL HANDS, PREPARE FOR EMERGENCY LANDING!!
BEEP!
BING
FASTEN YOUR SEAT BELTS!! EMERGENCY LANDING IN...
WOOOOOOOSH
AAAA

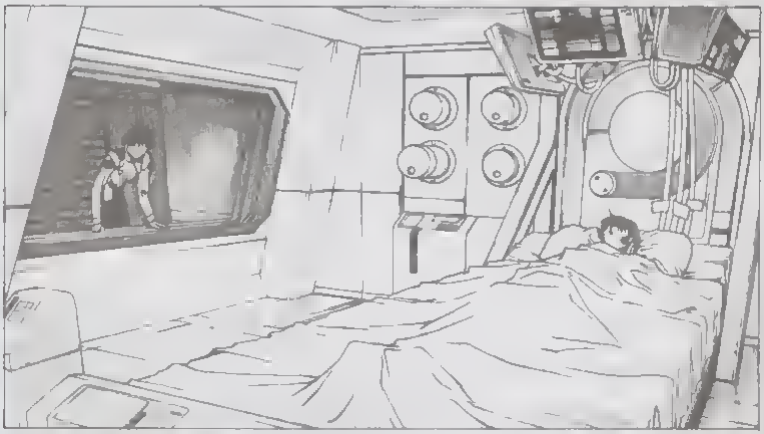
REVERSE POSITION 80 DEGREES!! FULL SPEED AHEAD!
OOOUUUM
BW!
HWMMMM
YOU! CAN'T DIE LIKE THIS!!
YURIKA MISU-MARU!!
I WON'T LET YOU DIE BEFORE WE END THIS ONCE AND FOR ALL!!
GOSHH
FW
WE'LL MEET AGAIN, SOMEWHERE IN THIS VAST SEA OF STARS


Whoooooosh!
VWOOOOOSHHHHHH
FORTY-EIGHT PERCENT OF THE NADESICO HAS SUSTAINED DAMAGE. OUR DISTORTION FIELD DRIVE IS COMPLETELY NONFUNCTIONAL.
GRAVITATION BLASTS ARE USELESS AS WELL. THE PHASE TRANSITION ENGINE IS DOWN BY TWENTY PERCENT BUT OUR REGULAR ENGINE IS STILL OPERABLE.
WE NEED TO REPAIR THE GRAVITY BLADE IN ORDER TO LAUNCH INTO SPACE.
BUT.. WE DON'T HAVE THE FACILITIES TO REPAIR THAT KIND OF DAMAGE
YES, WE DO!
WHAT?
10K

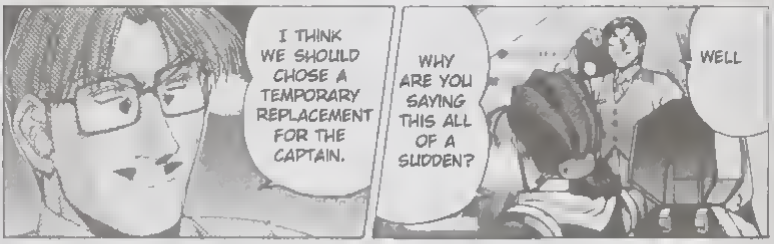
WE CAN STILL USE THE FACILITIES AT NERGAL'S MARS RESEARCH CENTER.
INES!!
I THOUGHT THAT MARS WAS ATTACKED AND RAVAGED BY THE JUPITERIANS.
IT WAS. BUT THE SHELTER WE HID IN WAS SOME KIND OF DOCK.
IS IT POSSIBLE TO REPAIR IT?
MAYBE..
GRIP
MAYBE?! YOU'RE SURE ABOUT THIS?
IF THERE ARE NO OTHER OPTIONS, I THINK WE SHOULD TRY IT.
OTHER-WISE WE'RE ALL GOING END UP IN THE MARTIAN SANDS!!
FOR THE TIME BEING, WE SHOULD GO AND CHECK THE NERGAL RESEARCH CENTER.
I'M NOT FEELING TOO SURE ABOUT THIS, BUT .
I REMEMBER SOMEONE TAKING COMMAND AS WE APPROACHED MARS.
OH, YEAH! I RE-MEMBER THAT, TOO WHO WAS THAT?

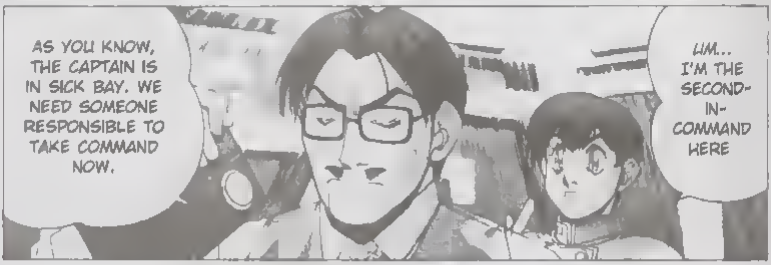
HI! THAT WAS ME!
HELLO, EVERYBODY! I'M THE GENIUS ROBOT, NINETY-EIGHT NICE TO MEET YOU ALL
98
TA-DA!
.....
HUH? WHAT'S THIS?
ROBOT?
THAT'S RIGHT! I MADE IT EVERY SPACE CRUISER'S SUPPOSED TO HAVE ONE!
VICTOR
WHO ARE YOU TALKING TO?
COUGH

医療室
MEDICAL ROOM



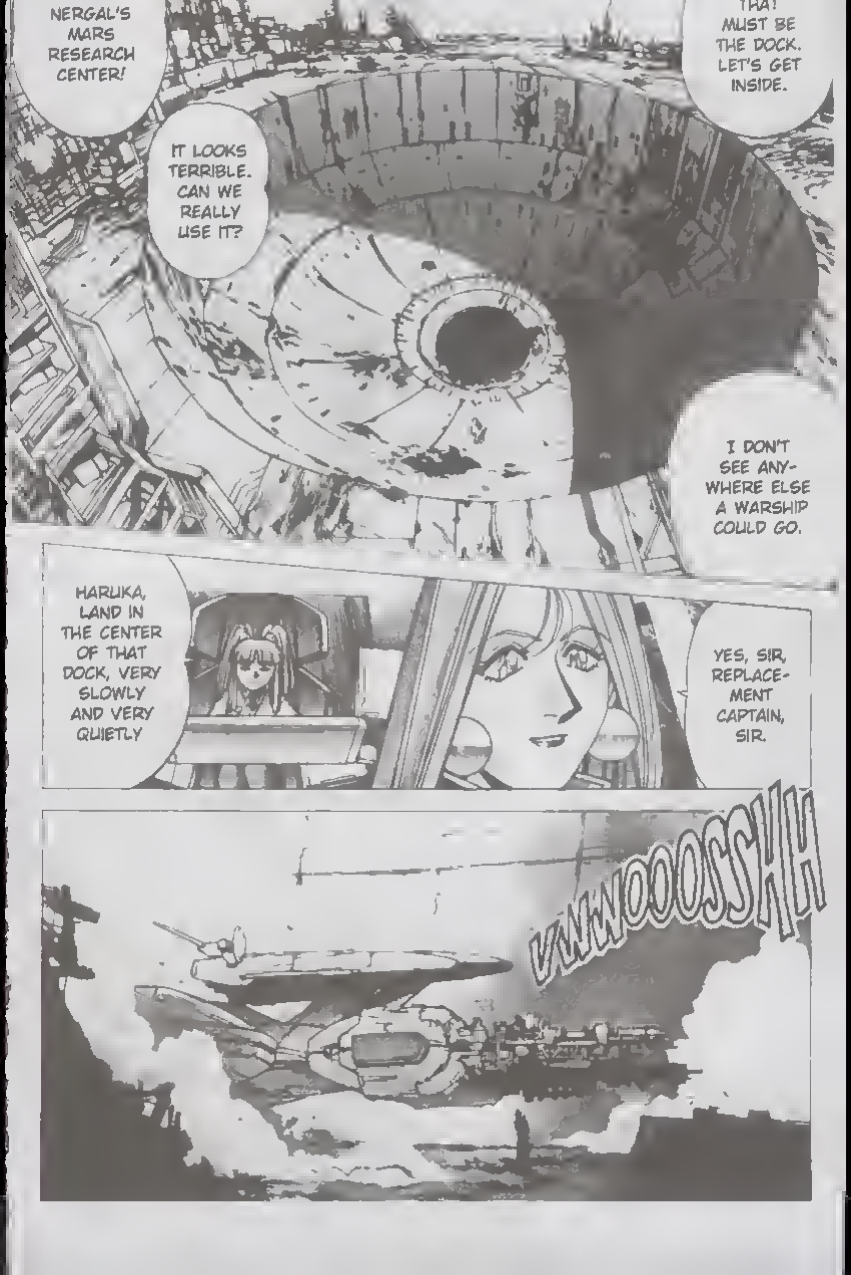
VVV OOOO
OOSS
SSHH


I THINK WE SHOULD CHOSE A TEMPORARY REPLACEMENT FOR THE CAPTAIN.
WHY ARE YOU SAYING THIS ALL OF A SUDDEN?
WELL


AS YOU KNOW, THE CAPTAIN IS IN SICK BAY. WE NEED SOMEONE RESPONSIBLE TO TAKE COMMAND NOW.
UM... I'M THE SECOND-IN-COMMAND HERE

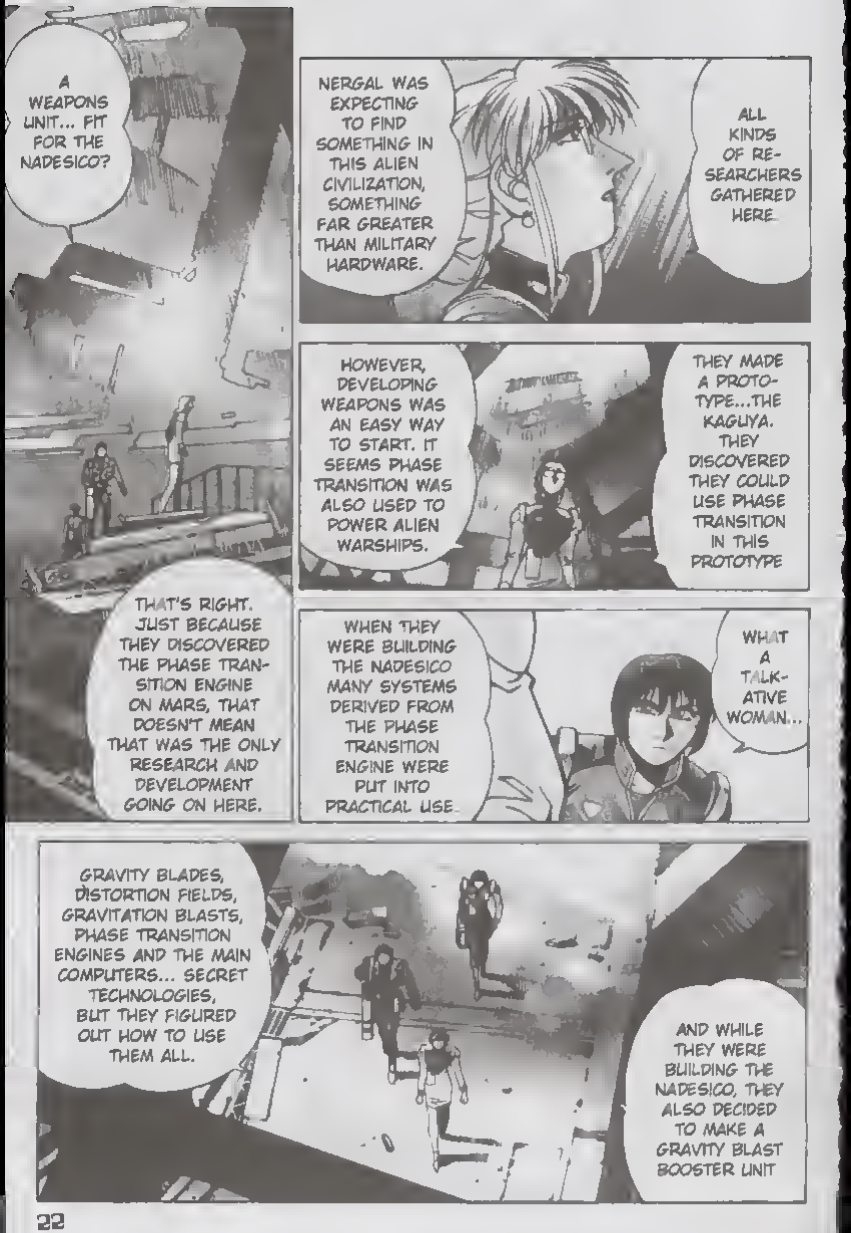
NO! THE SECOND-IN-COMMAND SHOULD CONCENTRATE ON ASSISTING THE CAPTAIN, WHOEVER THAT CAPTAIN MAY BE
WHAT'S MORE, WE CAN'T CHOSE ADMIRAL FUKUBE OR MR MUNETAKE EITHER! SOMEONE YOUNG SHOULD BE IN COMMAND OF THE NADESICO!

ME..?
GREAT, GREAT.
THAT'S RIGHT. WE ALL CHOSE YOU, RURI HOSHINO, AS REPLACEMENT CAPTAIN!
GOOD. GOOD. GOOD.
WE TRUST YOU. THE FATE OF THE EARTH NOW DEPENDS ON YOU AND NADESICO!
I HOPE YOU'LL BE AN HONORABLE AND JUST CAPTAIN, JUST LIKE ALL THE PAST CAPTAINS
"ALL THE PAST CAP-TAINS"?
WHO?


NERGAL'S MARS RESEARCH CENTER!
IT LOOKS TERRIBLE. CAN WE REALLY USE IT?
THAT MUST BE THE DOCK. LET'S GET INSIDE.
I DON'T SEE ANY-WHERE ELSE A WARSHIP COULD GO.
HARUKA, LAND IN THE CENTER OF THAT DOCK, VERY SLOWLY AND VERY QUIETLY
YES, SIR, REPLACE-MENT CAPTAIN, SIR.
WWWOOOSSHH

YURIKA MISUMARU..
SO BEAUTIFUL.. YES, YOU ARE ..
INES, WE'VE DOCKED CAN YOU COME TO THE BRIEFING ROOM?
BE RIGHT THERE.
DON'T WORRY, YURIKA MISUMARU.
I WON'T LET YOU DIE
HEH HEH HEH.

THIS IS UNBELIEV-ABLE WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO USE THIS DOCK FOR REPAIRS
I CAN'T BE-LIEVE THIS
HOW LONG WILL REPAIRS TAKE?
WELL, AS THERE ARE PARTS HERE TOO..
I'D SAY... APPROXI-MATELY ONE WEEK.
CAN I MAKE A SUGGES-TION?
WHY DON'T WE REMODEL AND STRENGTHEN THE NADESICO?
TOK


A WEAPONS UNIT... FIT FOR THE NADESICO?
NERGAL WAS EXPECTING TO FIND SOMETHING IN THIS ALIEN CIVILIZATION, SOMETHING FAR GREATER THAN MILITARY HARDWARE.
ALL KINDS OF RESEARCHERS GATHERED HERE.
HOWEVER, DEVELOPING WEAPONS WAS AN EASY WAY TO START. IT SEEMS PHASE TRANSITION WAS ALSO USED TO POWER ALIEN WARSHIPS.
THEY MADE A PROTOTYPE...THE KAGUYA. THEY DISCOVERED THEY COULD USE PHASE TRANSITION IN THIS PROTOTYPE
THAT'S RIGHT. JUST BECAUSE THEY DISCOVERED THE PHASE TRANSITION ENGINE ON MARS, THAT DOESN'T MEAN THAT WAS THE ONLY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT GOING ON HERE.
WHEN THEY WERE BUILDING THE NADESICO MANY SYSTEMS DERIVED FROM THE PHASE TRANSITION ENGINE WERE PUT INTO PRACTICAL USE.
WHAT A TALKATIVE WOMAN...
GRAVITY BLADES, DISTORTION FIELDS, GRAVITATION BLASTS, PHASE TRANSITION ENGINES AND THE MAIN COMPUTERS... SECRET TECHNOLOGIES, BUT THEY FIGURED OUT HOW TO USE THEM ALL.
AND WHILE THEY WERE BUILDING THE NADESICO, THEY ALSO DECIDED TO MAKE A GRAVITY BLAST BOOSTER UNIT

THEY STARTED BUILDING THE NADESICO ON EARTH AND THE BOOSTER ON MARS. THE BOOSTER WAS FINISHED FIRST..
-BUT RIGHT AFTER FINISHING IT, THE JUPITERIANS ATTACKED MARS I'VE EXPLAINED WHAT HAPPENED AFTER THAT.
I'M REPEATING MYSELF HERE, BUT WASN'T THE BOOSTER DESTROYED AS WELL?
CLANK!
RATTLE
IT'S FINE THE BOOSTER IS IN PERFECT CONDITION.
THIS IS IT! TAKE A LOOK
TOK.
CLANK
IF HE'S RIGHT, WE'RE WASTING OUR TIME.
RATTLE!
AT LEAST IT WAS THE LAST TIME I SAW IT.
HUH?! THAT'S...
WHAT?

WHAT THE HELL IS THAT?!
FWO
OOOO
aCCCSHHHH
IT'S THE YAMATO.
WHAT!? I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS. IS THIS .?

THIS... THIS SHIP IS...
vvvv

第8話 故郷は火星

MARS, AKITO'S MOTHER PLANET

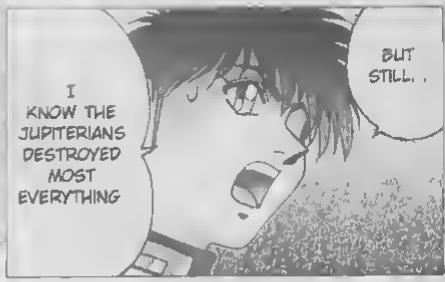
SEE.

A WALL OF NERGAL CONTAIN-ERS?
ARE THOSE ALL PARTS?
YES, THEY ARE! THOSE ARE YAMATO UNIT PARTS
EACH UNIT IS ALREADY PRE-ASSEMBLED.
SO IT'LL BE EASIER THAN A GARAGE KIT.
I WOULDN'T SAY THAT.
WHAT. .?
WE SHOULD MOVE THE NADESICO INTO THE UNDER-GROUND SHELTER
WE CAN MOVE THESE PARTS TO THE DOCK WITH LIFTS. WE CAN THINK ABOUT ASSEMBLING IT ALL LATER.
NERGAL INDUSTRIES. CO LTD
HHH HRRM

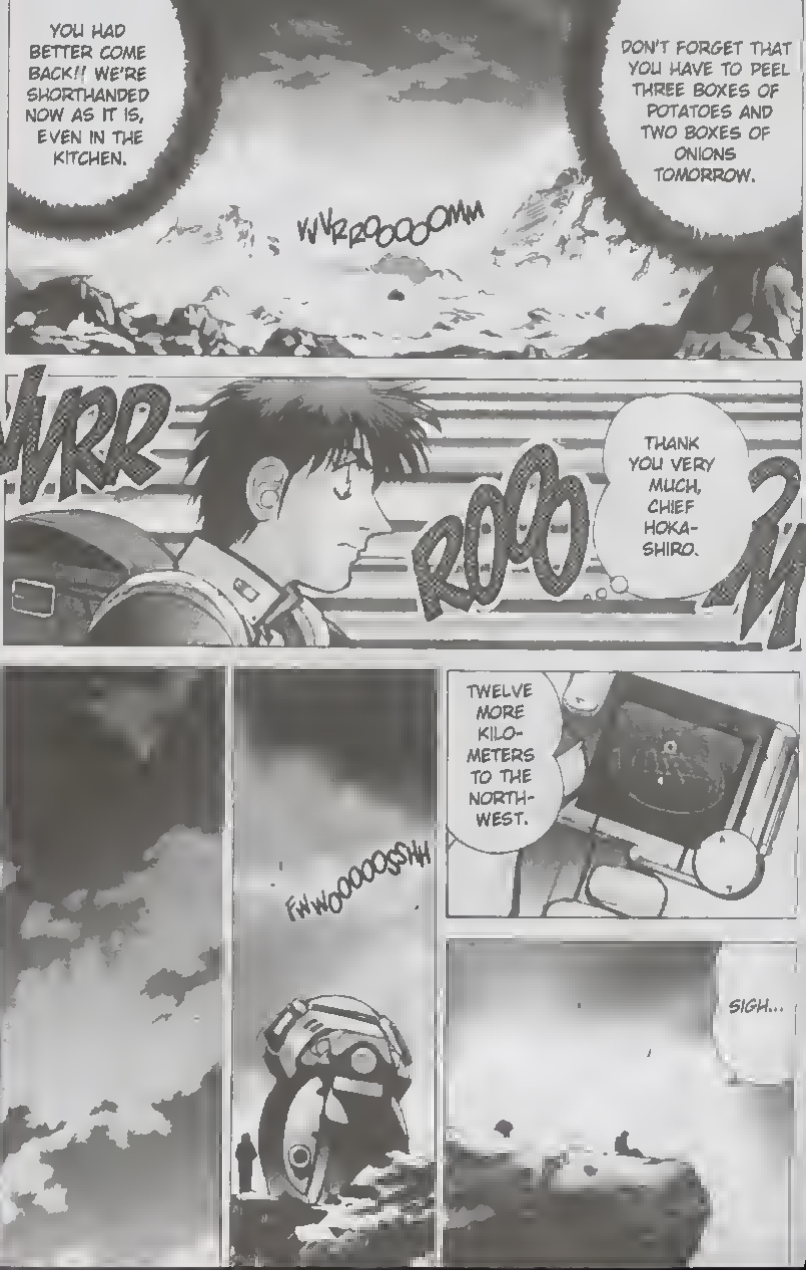
THREE DAYS LATER
RYUM RYUM
HHRR
CLANG CLANG CLANG

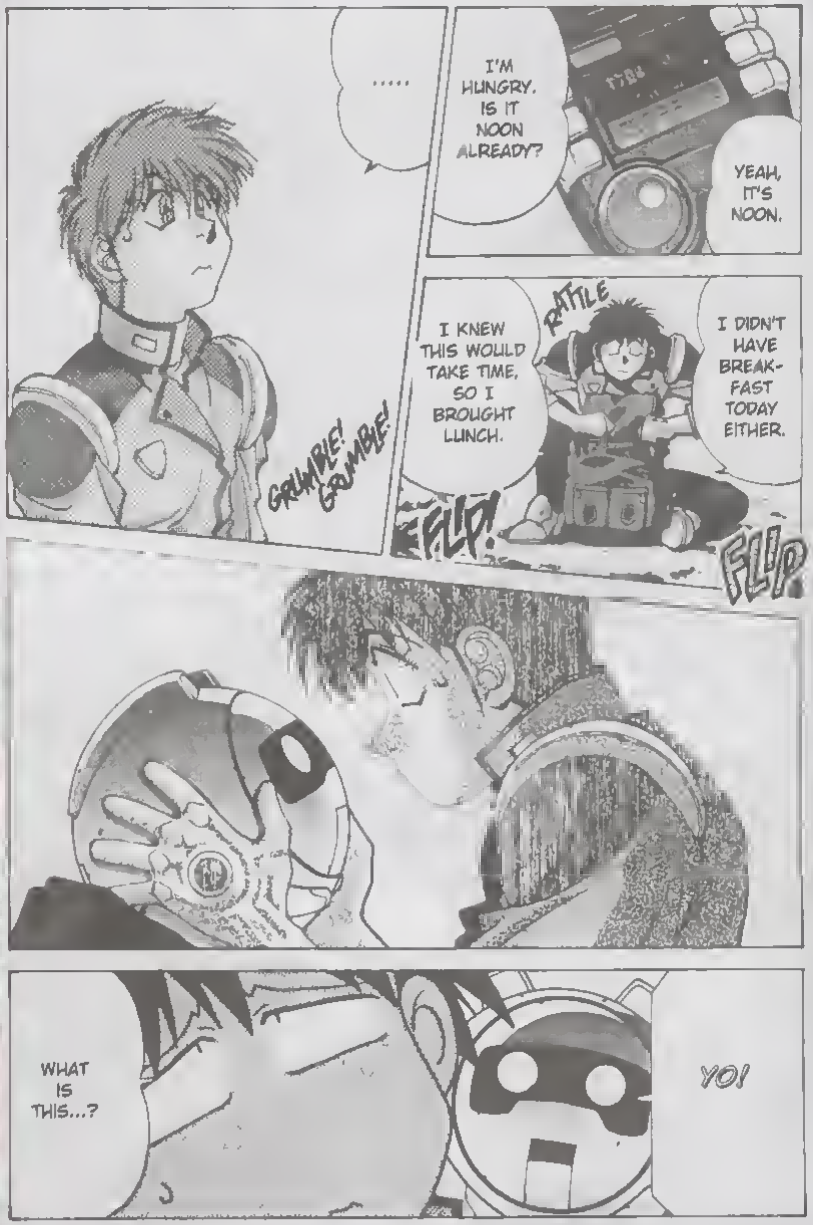
YOU WANT TODAY OFF?
READY ROOM
WHY?

MARS IS MY MOTHER PLANET. I WANT TO LOOK AROUND...
LOOK AROUND...? BUT...


I KNOW THE JUPITERIANS DESTROYED MOST EVERYTHING
BUT STILL..

ALRIGHT. WE'RE NOT AT WAR NOW, SO YOU CAN HAVE THE DAY OFF.
I'LL TELL YOU ONE THING, THOUGH


YOU HAD BETTER COME BACK!! WE'RE SHORTHANDED NOW AS IT IS, EVEN IN THE KITCHEN.
DON'T FORGET THAT YOU HAVE TO PEEL THREE BOXES OF POTATOES AND TWO BOXES OF ONIONS TOMORROW.
WWRROOOOMM
WRR
ROOO
THANK YOU VERY MUCH, CHIEF HOKA-SHIRO.
TWELVE MORE KILO-METERS TO THE NORTH-WEST.
FWWOOOOSSHH
SIGH...


.....
GRUMBLE! GRUMBLE!
I'M HUNGRY. IS IT NOON ALREADY?
YEAH, IT'S NOON.
I KNEW THIS WOULD TAKE TIME, SO I BROUGHT LUNCH.
RATTLE
I DIDN'T HAVE BREAK-FAST TODAY EITHER.
FLIP!
FLIP
WHAT IS THIS...?
YO!

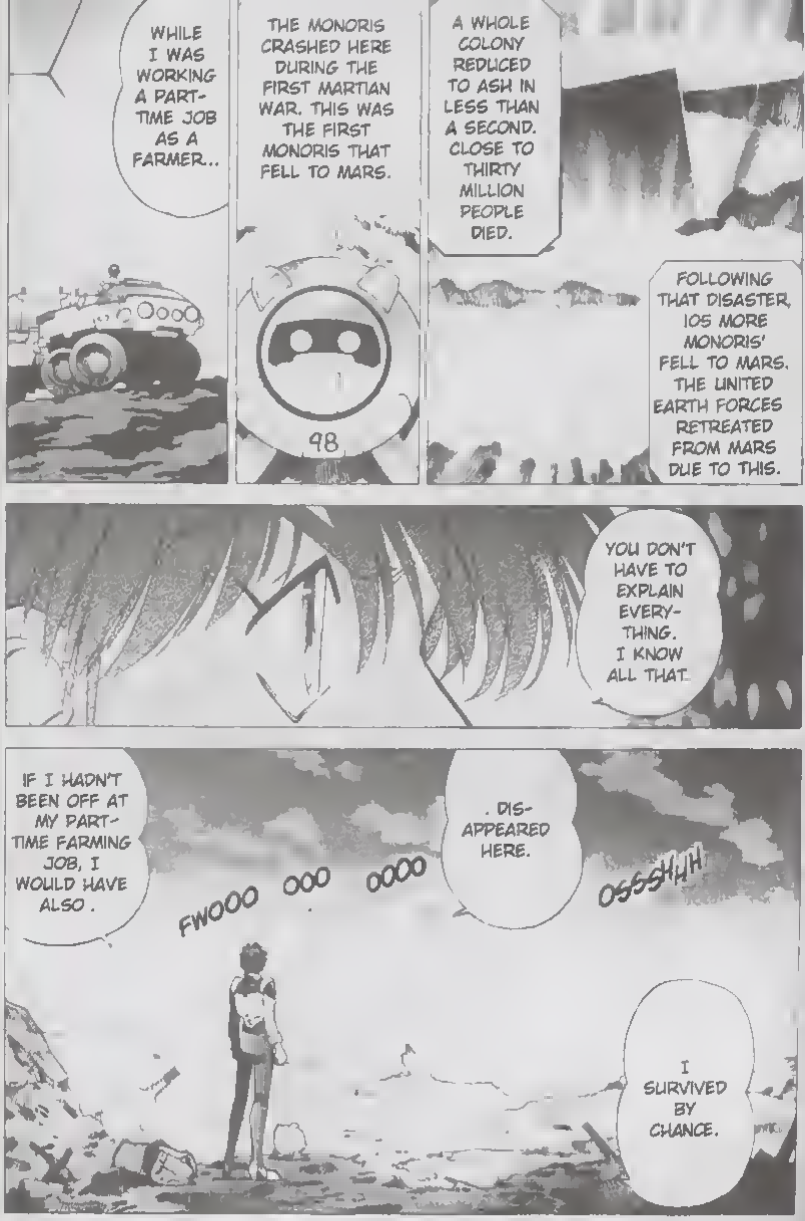
PSSSH
GULP
GLUB
GULP
GLUB
GULP
GLUB
PHEEEEW.
WHAT'S WRONG, RYOKO?
HMMMM?
OH... HI, HIKARU, HI, IZUMI.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN "WHAT"? WE'RE WORRIED ABOUT YOU CUZ YOU LOOK UPSET.
UMMM..
IZUMI, YOU DON'T HAVE TO JOKE.
NOTHING BUT FREE TIME ..
EVER SINCE I CAME ONBOARD THE NADESICO.

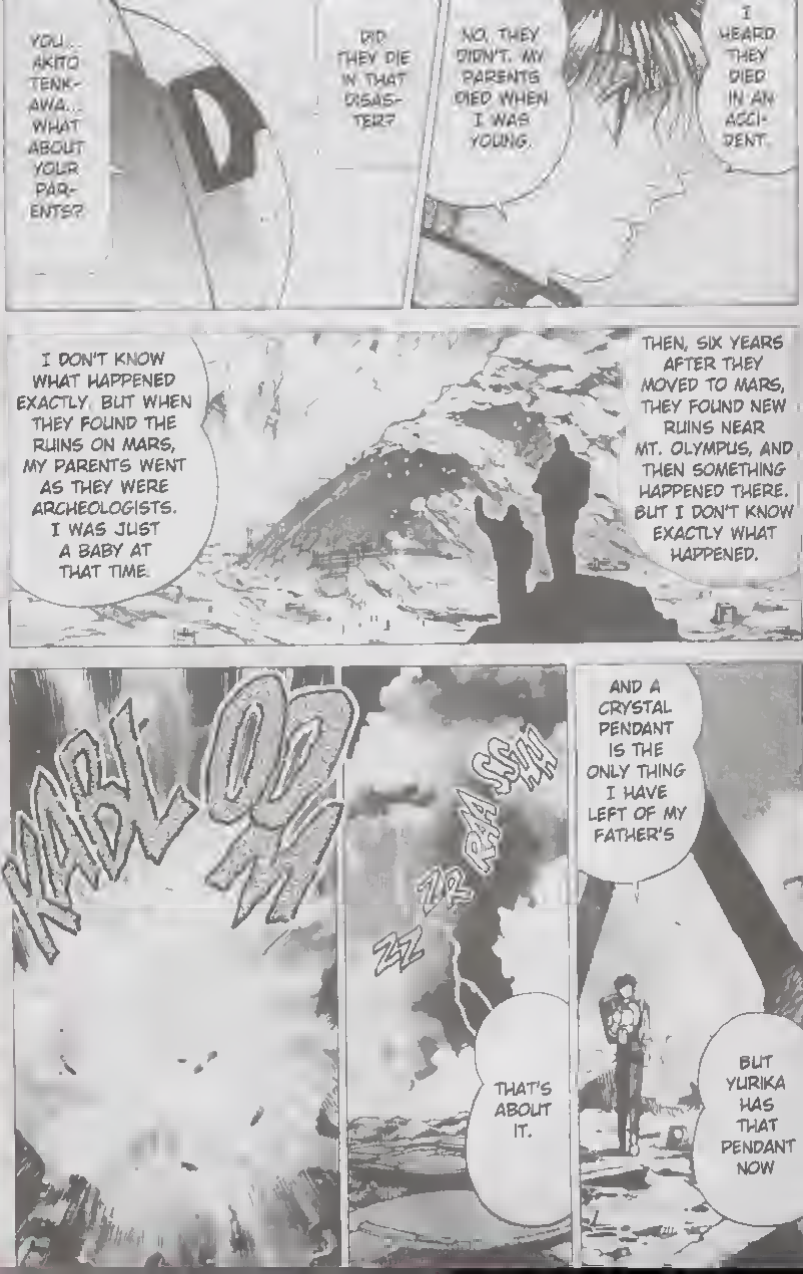
AFTER I SIGNED MY CONTRACT, I BOARDED THE NADESICO...
THERE WAS ONLY ONE BATTLE AND THEN
NOTHING TO DO.
YEAH, YEAH
YOU KNOW.. I WANT TO FIGHT ...A HUGE BATTLE!
WE'VE FINALLY GOT THE NEW EXABYTE AND I DON'T WANT THIS TO END WITHOUT HAVING USED IT.
WOW! YOU'RE A REAL BATTLE-HARDENED WOMAN!
SHUT UP! THIS IS THE WAY I LIVE.
...
I SAID NO JOKES!

HOW COME A ROBOT EATS RICE BALLS? I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS!!
VRRRR
RRRMM
IF I HADN'T EATEN IT, I COULDN'T HAVE FIT IN THE BAG. HOWEVER..
I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT IT WAS. THE INGRED-IENTS WERE..
IT'S OK. IT'S OK.
WRRMM
SCREECH

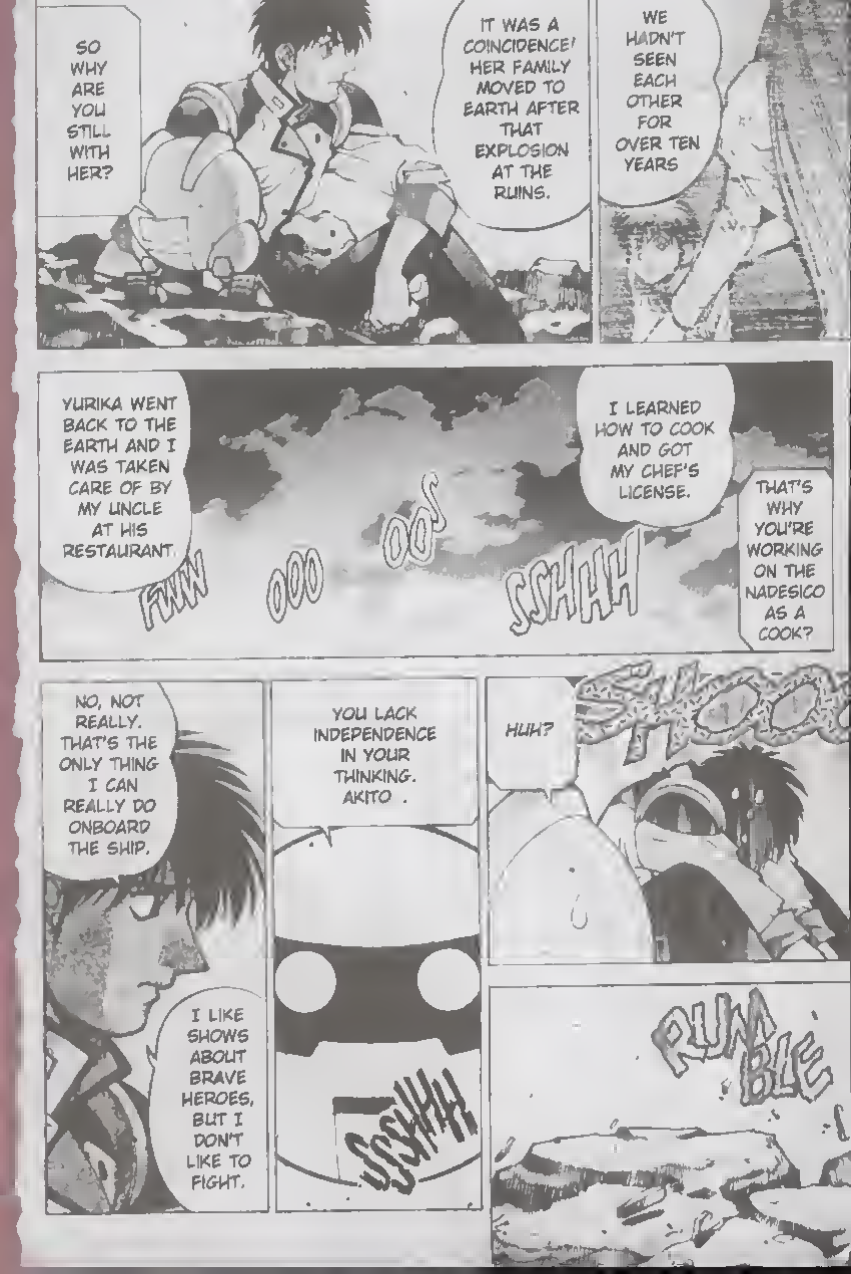
CRASH
FWOO

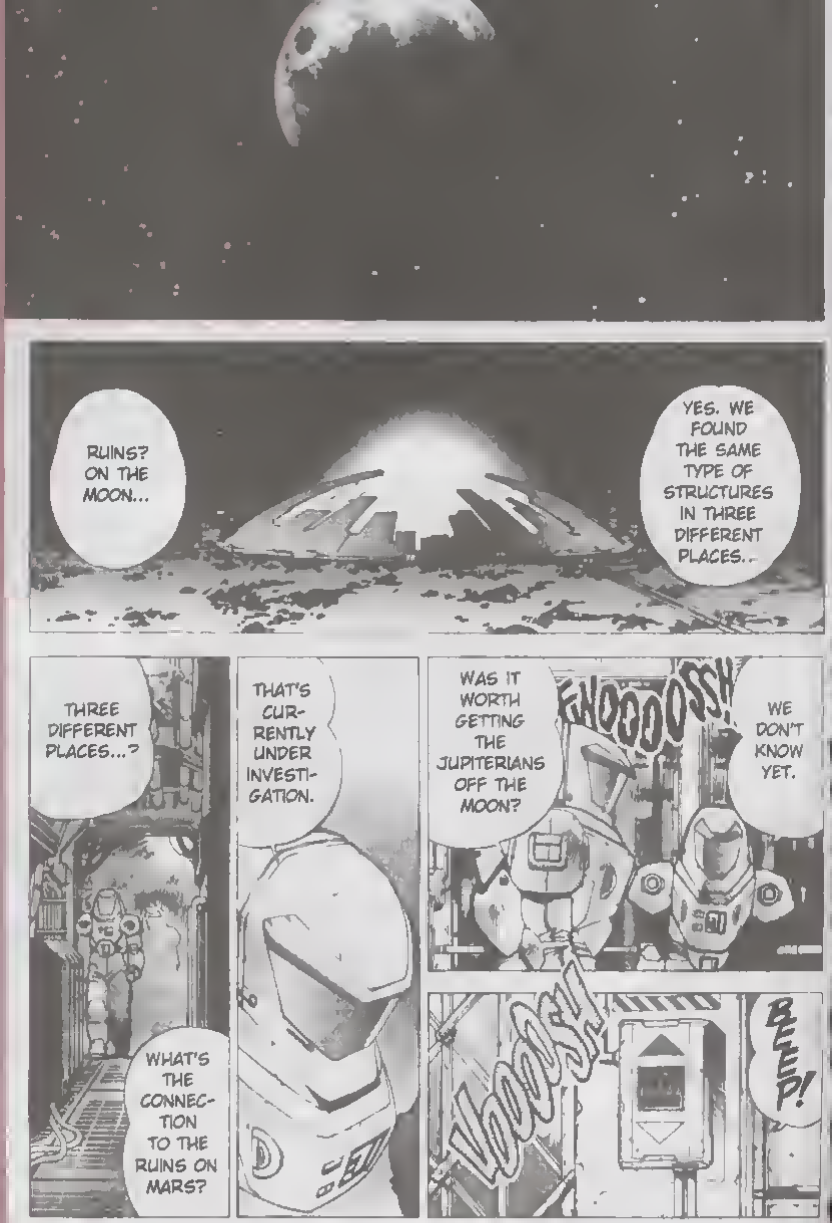
I KNEW IT...
THUD
A MONORIS CRASHED INTO MY TOWN.

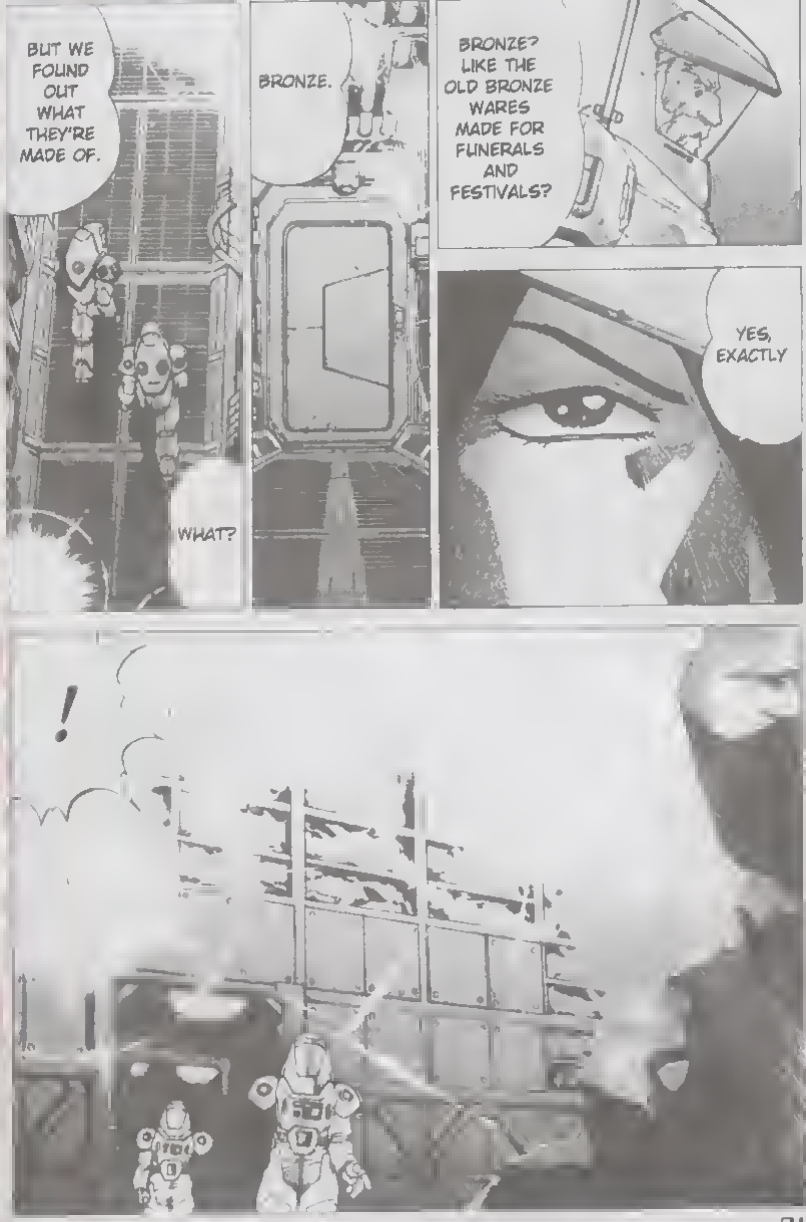

WHILE I WAS WORKING A PART-TIME JOB AS A FARMER..
THE MONORIS CRASHED HERE DURING THE FIRST MARTIAN WAR. THIS WAS THE FIRST MONORIS THAT FELL TO MARS.
A WHOLE COLONY REDUCED TO ASH IN LESS THAN A SECOND. CLOSE TO THIRTY MILLION PEOPLE DIED.
FOLLOWING THAT DISASTER, 105 MORE MONORIS' FELL TO MARS. THE UNITED EARTH FORCES RETREATED FROM MARS DUE TO THIS.
98
YOU DON'T HAVE TO EXPLAIN EVERY-THING. I KNOW ALL THAT.
IF I HADN'T BEEN OFF AT MY PART-TIME FARMING JOB, I WOULD HAVE ALSO .
FWOOO OOO OOOO
. DIS-APPEARED HERE.
OSSSHHH
I SURVIVED BY CHANCE.

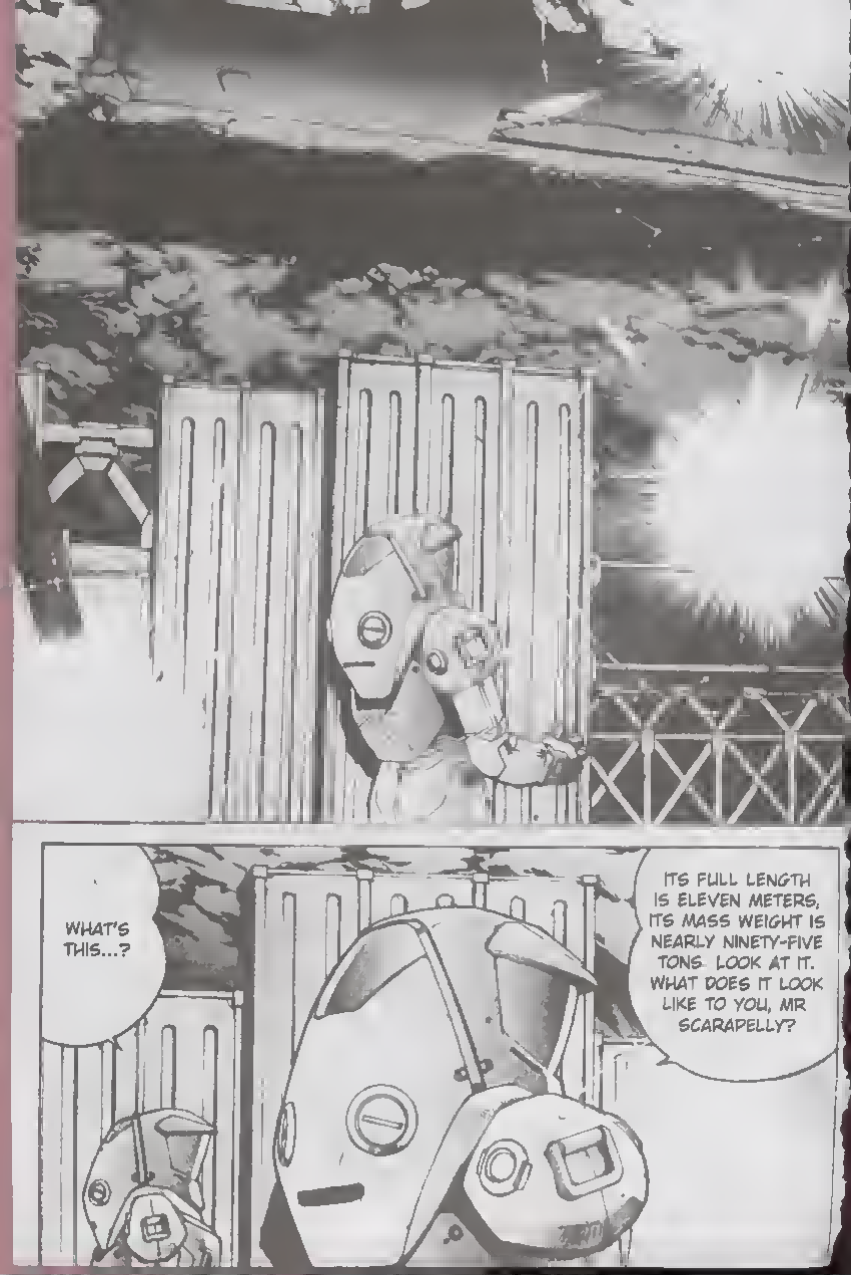

YOU... AKITO TENKAWA... WHAT ABOUT YOUR PARENTS?
DID THEY DIE IN THAT DISASTER?
NO. THEY DIDN'T. MY PARENTS DIED WHEN I WAS YOUNG.
I HEARD THEY DIED IN AN ACCIDENT.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT HAPPENED EXACTLY. BUT WHEN THEY FOUND THE RUINS ON MARS, MY PARENTS WENT AS THEY WERE ARCHEOLOGISTS. I WAS JUST A BABY AT THAT TIME.
THEN, SIX YEARS AFTER THEY MOVED TO MARS, THEY FOUND NEW RUINS NEAR MT. OLYMPUS, AND THEN SOMETHING HAPPENED THERE. BUT I DON'T KNOW EXACTLY WHAT HAPPENED.
KRRL
THAT'S ABOUT IT.
AND A CRYSTAL PENDANT IS THE ONLY THING I HAVE LEFT OF MY FATHER'S
BUT YURIKA HAS THAT PENDANT NOW

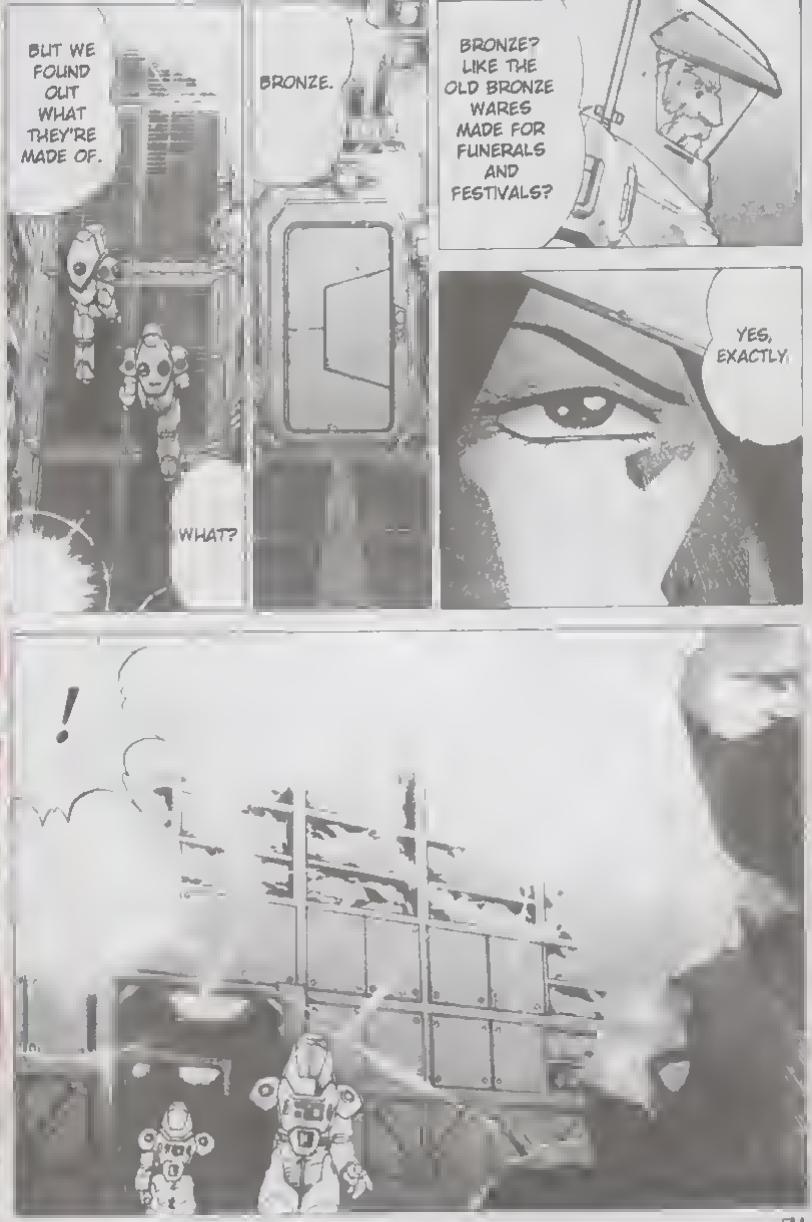
YURIKA MISUMARU —THE CAPTAIN OF THE NADESICO?
DO YOU KNOW HER FROM BEFORE?
YEAH, I'VE KNOWN HER SINCE WE WERE KIDS SHE WAS MY NEIGHBOR.
I GUESS HER PARENTS AND MY PARENTS KNEW EACH OTHER. BUT I DON'T KNOW TOO MUCH ABOUT THAT.
WHEN-EVER I WAS WITH YURIKA, SOME-THING STRANGE ALWAYS HAPPENED.
ALWAYS...
ALWAYS...
YURIKA BRINGS ME BAD LUCK.
WHEN WE WERE KIDS.. AND STILL NOW.


SO WHY ARE YOU STILL WITH HER?
IT WAS A COINCIDENCE! HER FAMILY MOVED TO EARTH AFTER THAT EXPLOSION AT THE RUINS.
WE HADN'T SEEN EACH OTHER FOR OVER TEN YEARS
YURIKA WENT BACK TO THE EARTH AND I WAS TAKEN CARE OF BY MY UNCLE AT HIS RESTAURANT.
FWW
OOO
OOS
SSHHH
I LEARNED HOW TO COOK AND GOT MY CHEF'S LICENSE.
THAT'S WHY YOU'RE WORKING ON THE NADESICO AS A COOK?
NO, NOT REALLY. THAT'S THE ONLY THING I CAN REALLY DO ONBOARD THE SHIP.
I LIKE SHOWS ABOUT BRAVE HEROES, BUT I DON'T LIKE TO FIGHT.
YOU LACK INDEPENDENCE IN YOUR THINKING. AKITO .
SSSHHH
HUH?
PTOO
RUMBLE


RUINS? ON THE MOON...
YES. WE FOUND THE SAME TYPE OF STRUCTURES IN THREE DIFFERENT PLACES..
THREE DIFFERENT PLACES...?
WHAT'S THE CONNEC-TION TO THE RUINS ON MARS?
THAT'S CUR-RENTLY UNDER INVESTI-GATION.
WAS IT WORTH GETTING THE JUPITERIANS OFF THE MOON?
FWOOOOSH!
WE DON'T KNOW YET.
VOOOSH!
BEEP!


BUT WE FOUND OUT WHAT THEY'RE MADE OF.
WHAT?
BRONZE.
BRONZE? LIKE THE OLD BRONZE WARES MADE FOR FUNERALS AND FESTIVALS?
YES, EXACTLY
!


WHAT'S THIS...?
ITS FULL LENGTH IS ELEVEN METERS, ITS MASS WEIGHT IS NEARLY NINETY-FIVE TONS. LOOK AT IT. WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE TO YOU, MR SCARAPELLY?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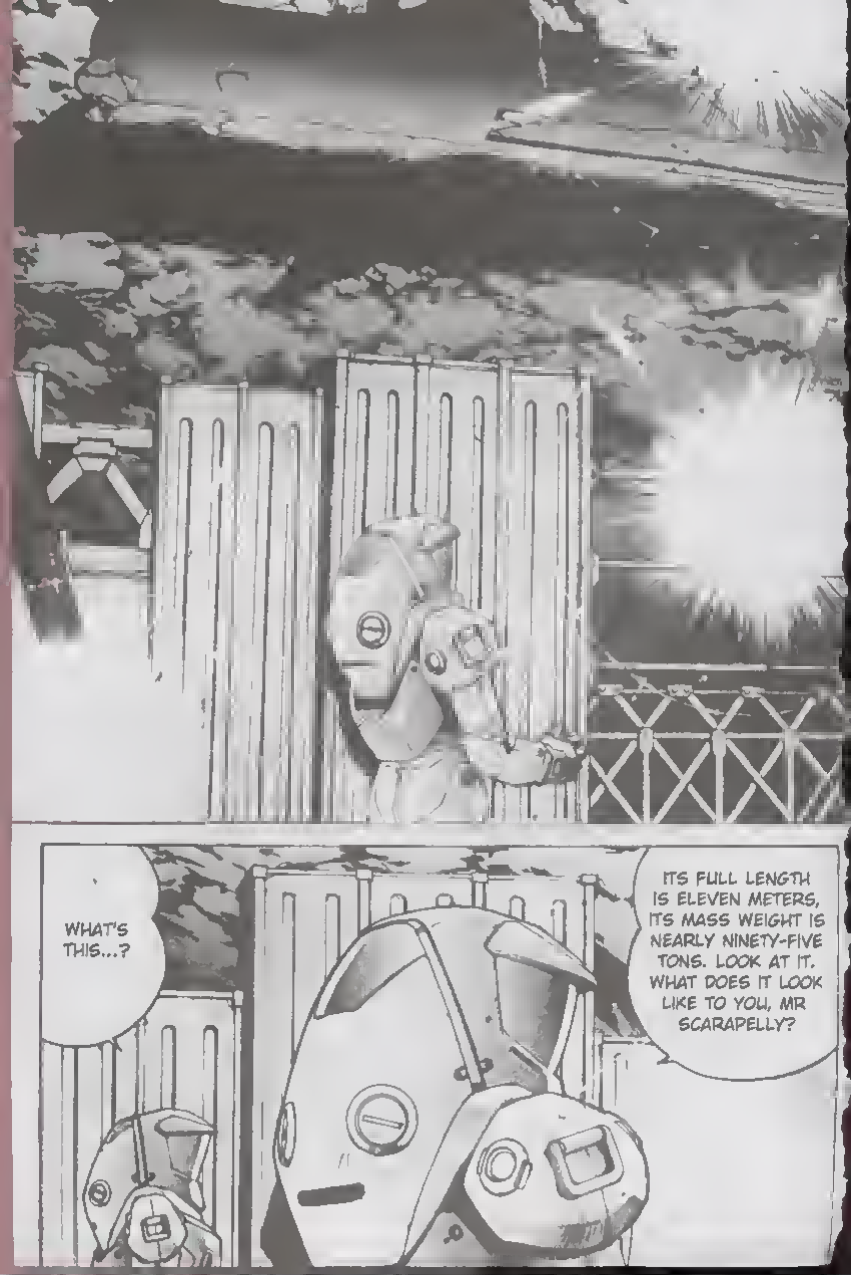
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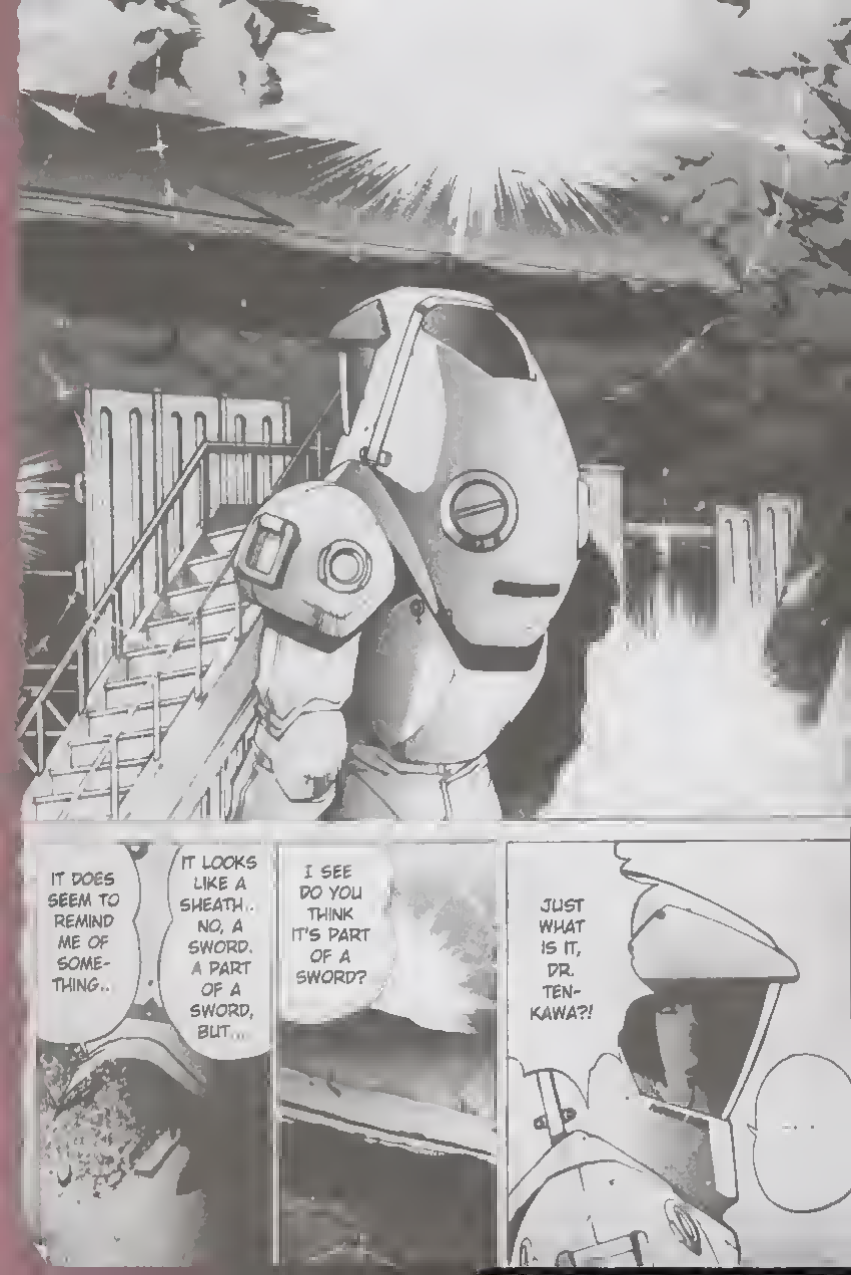
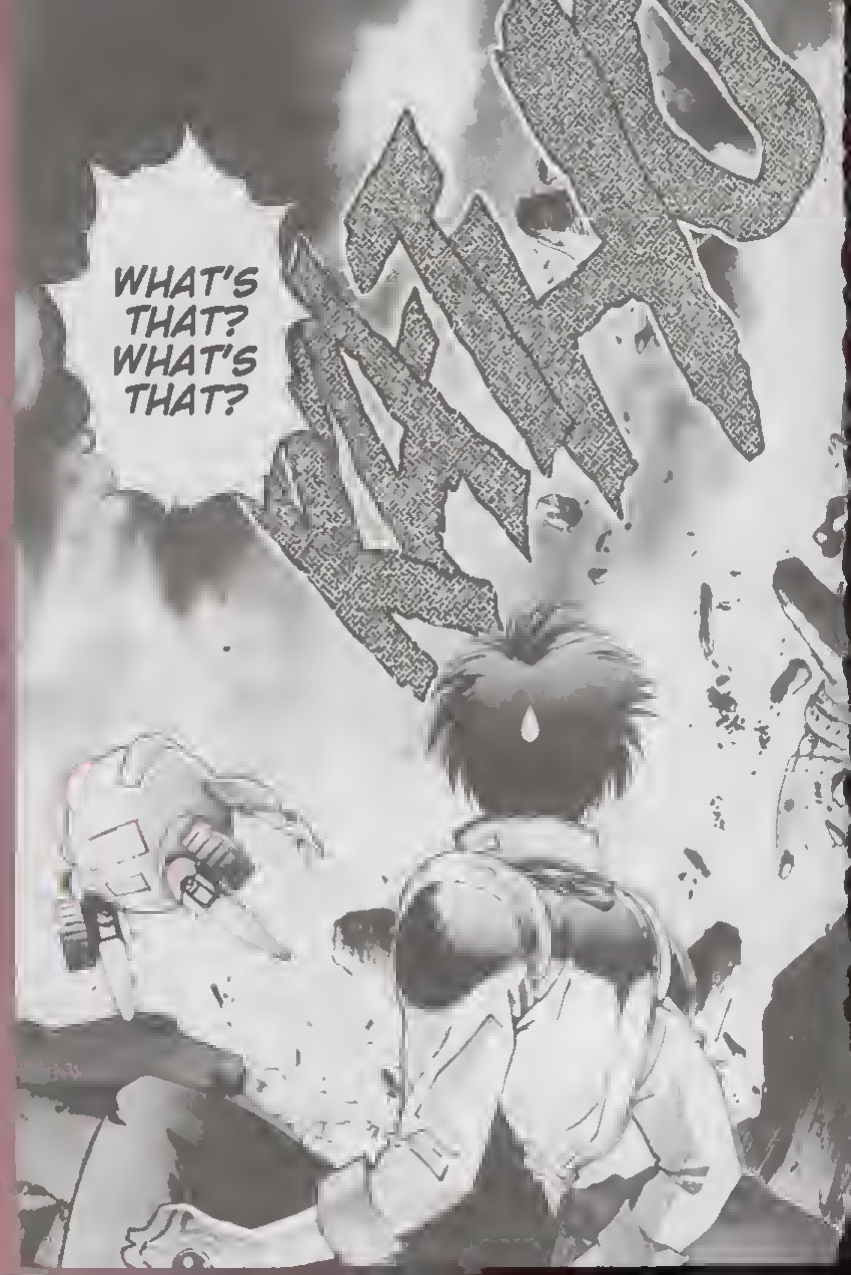

IT DOES SEEM TO REMIND ME OF SOME-THING..
IT LOOKS LIKE A SHEATH.. NO, A SWORD. A PART OF A SWORD, BUT...
I SEE DO YOU THINK IT'S PART OF A SWORD?
JUST WHAT IS IT, DR. TEN-KAWA?!
...

SO, WHAT DO YOU WANT TO BE?
WHAT ARE YOU PLANNING TO DO?
W. WHAT? DON'T ASK ME THAT. HARUKA JUST ASKED ME THE SAME THING.
I NEVER REALLY THOUGHT ABOUT IT.
WHU
MP!
SIGH..
IF I SAY "HERO", IS THAT A BAD ANSWER? DUMB, HUH?
BUT I GUESS A GUY MIGHT BE A HERO...
FOR THE TIME BEING, I'M JUST A COOK ON THE NADESICO AND SOME-TIMES A PILOT
OH, YEAH... THAT NEW WOMAN DOCTOR, INES, TOLD ME THAT THEY'RE GOING TO UPGRADE MY TATTOO TOMORROW

I BET THAT'S FOR THE REACT, THAT NEW OPERATING SYSTEM
THE NEW TATTOO MUST BE FOR THAT REACT IS NOTHING LIKE THE CURRENT IMAGE FIELD BACK SYSTEM.
YOU CAN ASSIMILATE COMPLETELY WITH THE AESTI VALIS! THE AESTI VALIS' EYES BECOME YOUR EYES.
AND ITS ARMS BECOME YOUR ARMS.
WHAT? W, .WAIT A MINUTE. THAT MEANS IF THE AESTI VALIS IS DAMAGED, MY BODY IS...
WHAT?
WHAT?
CREEK
CREEK


WHAT'S THAT? WHAT'S THAT?

I DON'T KNOW WHAT IT IS, BUT WE SHOULD GET OUT OF HERE!!
OBVIOUSLY, HE'S NOT A FRIEND!!
UHHH.. AKITO...

IT'S FAST!! IT'S CATCHING UP WITH US!!
THOOM
THOOM
THOOM
THOOM
ARRGHH!!
THUNK
THOOM
THOOM
THOOM
LILIGH ..
HERE IT COMES!!

AAHHH!!
SCH
!?
WHAT?

REEEE
THOOM
BA
BOOM

YOUR NAME IS AKITO TENKAWA, RIGHT!! ARE YOU OK?!
FWOOO
AN AESTI VALIS...?

第9話 ナデシコ、火星からの発進

TAKE OFF NADESICO FROM MARS

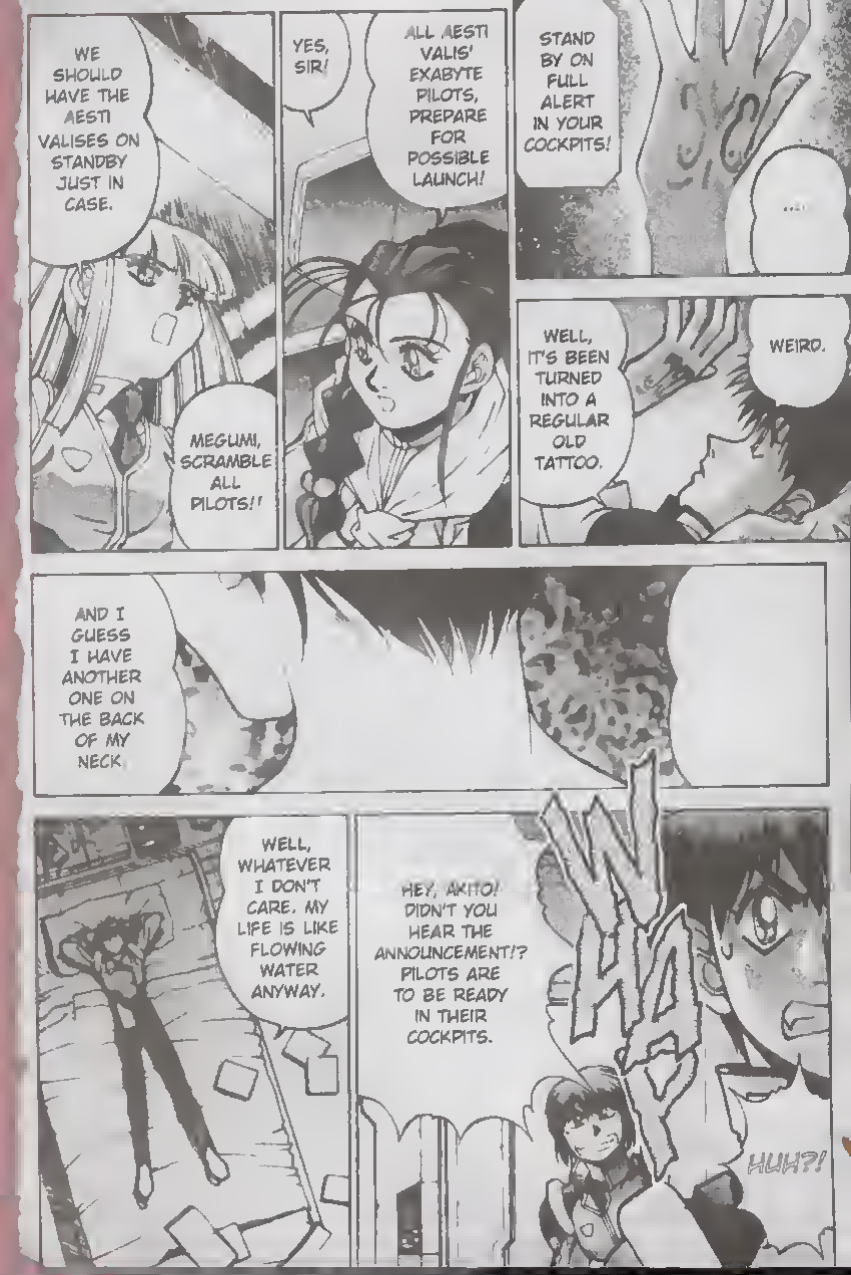
THIS IS THE SECOND TIME I'VE SAVED YOUR LIFE.
Y...YES. THAT'S RIGHT. I APPRECIATE IT. THANK YOU.
BANG BANG BANG
YOU DON'T LOOK LIKE YOU REALLY APPRECIATE IT, TEN-KAWA!
WHAT?
UMM
ARE YOU UPSET YOU WERE SAVED BY A WOMAN? IF YOU ARE, YOU SHOULD TRY TO BE A REAL MAN, ONE WHO CAN SAVE A WOMAN!
FIRST YOU HAVE TO BRUSH UP ON YOUR SKILLS! OTHERWISE I'LL HAVE TO SAVE YOU AGAIN!
YOU WOULDN'T LIKE THAT, HUH? HA HA HA.

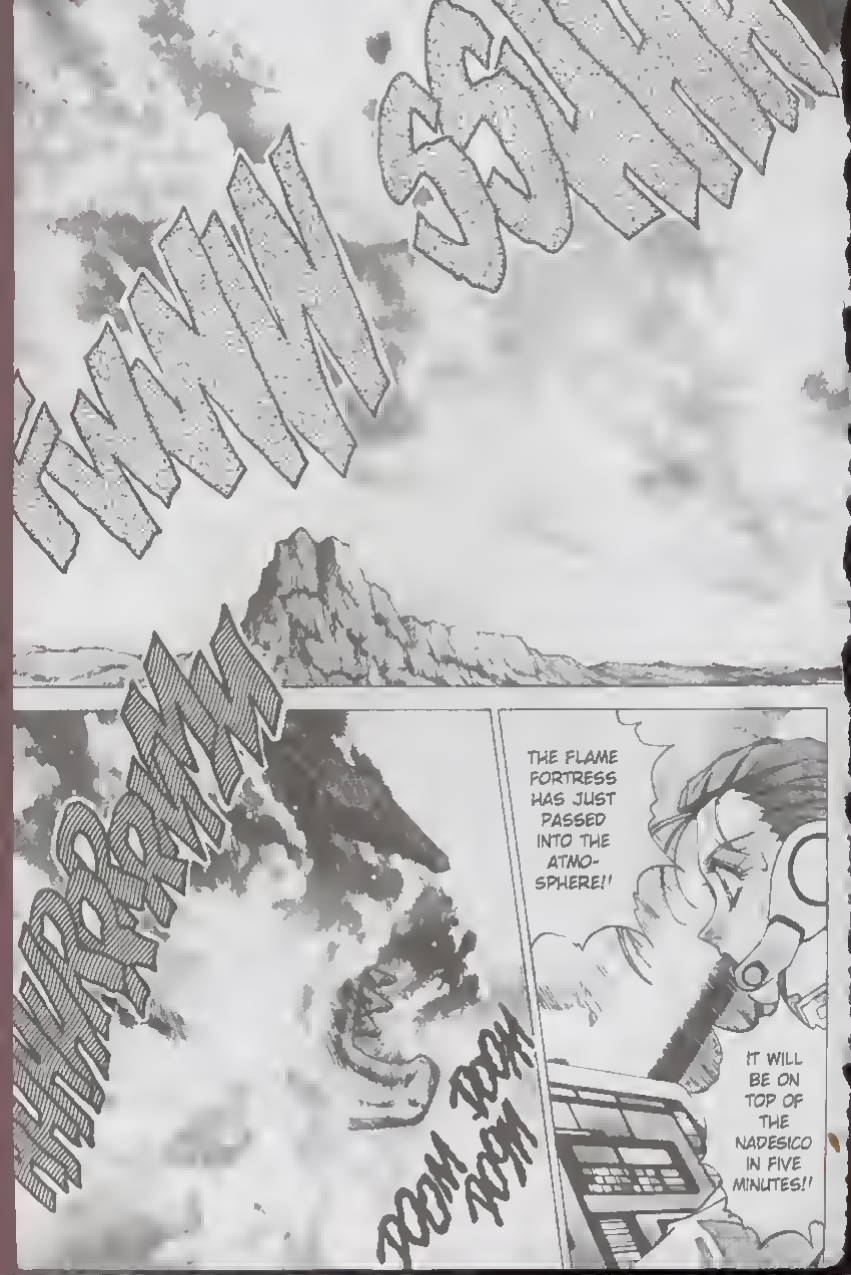
SO WHAT DO YOU THINK OF WHAT RYOKO BROUGHT BACK?
.....
I HEARD THAT IT WAS SOME KIND OF OLD EARTHEN FIGURE...
YOU MEAN THAT THERE'S BEEN AN EARTHEN FIGURE HERE ON MARS SINCE ANCIENT TIMES?
AND IT MOVED!? COULD IT BE SOME NEW JUPITERIAN WEAPON?
IF IT IS INDEED A WEAPON, THEY NOW KNOW...
...THERE ARE HUMANS HERE ON MARS.
WRRRMM

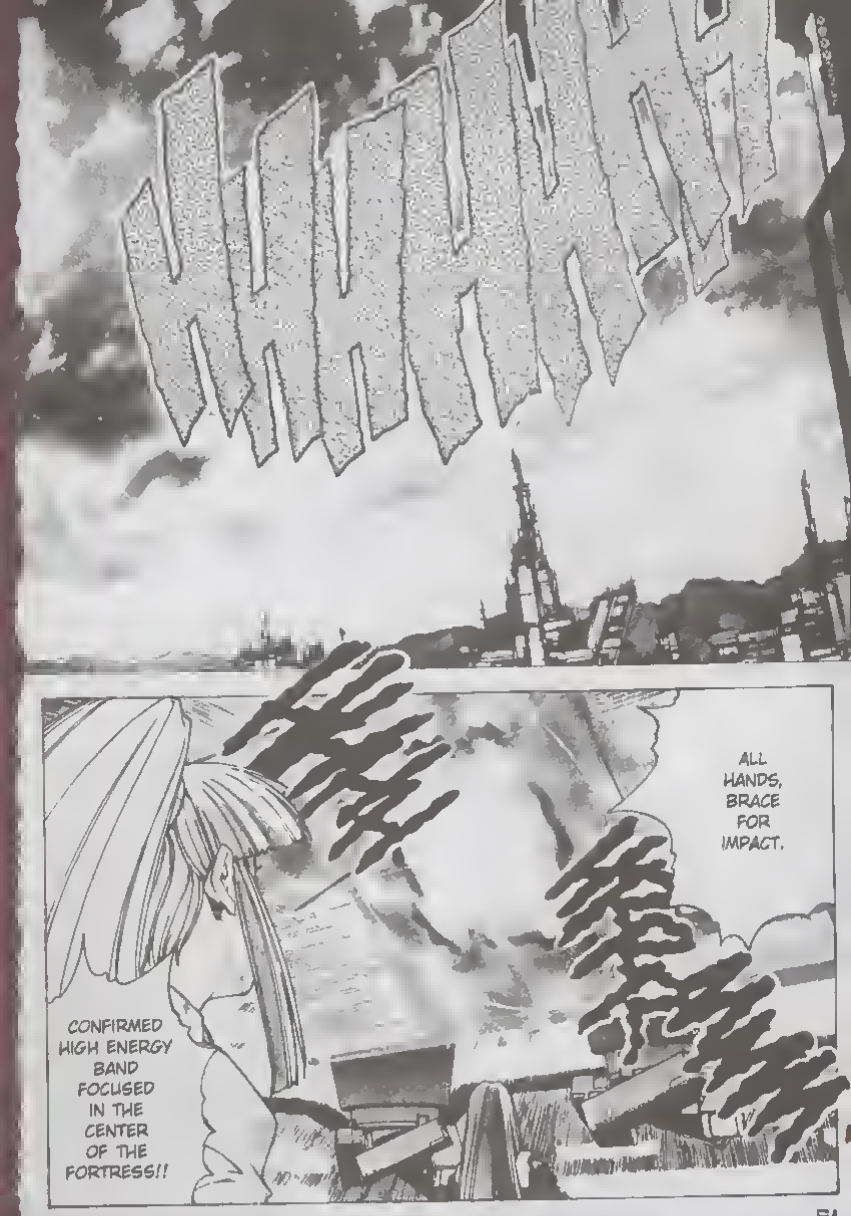
FOUR DAYS LATER.
FWWO OOOOSSHH
CLATTER
CLATTER
IS IT JUST ME OR IS THIS ELEVA-TOR TILTED?
IT'S NOT JUST THE ELEVATOR, THE WHOLE NADESICO IS TILTED. THERE'S SOME KIND OF PROBLEM. IT HAPPENED WHEN WE PUT IN THE YAMATO UNIT.
REALLY?
IDIOTS.

REPLACE-MENT CAPTAIN, GIVE THE ORDERS FOR DEPAR-TURE.
WHAT?
ALL HANDS, THIS IS RURI HOSHINO, YOUR REPLACE-MENT CAPTAIN.
AS YOU KNOW, WE FINALLY GOT TO MARS, BUT THE NADESICO WAS DAMAGED...
...AND THERE WERE NO SURVIVORS ON MARS AS WE ORIGINALLY BELIEVED THUS WE COULD NOT COMPLETE OUR MISSION
BATTLE
HOWEVER, WE WERE able TO PICK UP PARTS TO STRENGTHEN THE NADESICO. WE REPAIRED THE NADESICO WITH THESE PARTS.
WE HAVE HEREBY FINISHED THE "SCARAPELLY PROJECT" AND WE ARE NOW GOING TO BE RETURNING TO EARTH.
GENKIGEN BEAM!
.....
WE WILL BE DEPARTING IN ONE HOUR!
ALL HANDS! PREPARE FOR DEPARTURE!!

THAT ENEMY FORTRESS HAS JUST ENTERED MARS'S ATMOSPHERE!! IT'S ON ITS WAY DOWN TOWARD US.
HARUKA!
WE NEED TO TAKE OFF FASTER NOW.
I KNOW, I KNOW, RURI RURI.
H E H!
HEY! ENGINE ROOM, LET'S SPEED UP THE ENERGY TRANSFER!!
HURRY IT UP!! WE'RE GOING TO NEED TO DEPART WITH ONLY THE SUB ENGINES!!
ENERGY CAPACITY NOW AT SIXTY-FIVE PERCENT! CYLINDER PRESSURE IS CLIMBING!
WE'RE GOING TO OPEN THE CIRCUIT TO THE PHASE TRANSITION ENGINES


WE SHOULD HAVE THE AESTI VALISES ON STANDBY JUST IN CASE.
MEGUMI, SCRAMBLE ALL PILOTS!!
YES, SIR!
ALL AESTI VALIS' EXABYTE PILOTS, PREPARE FOR POSSIBLE LAUNCH!
STAND BY ON FULL ALERT IN YOUR COCKPITS!
...!
WELL, IT'S BEEN TURNED INTO A REGULAR OLD TATTOO.
WEIRD.
AND I GUESS I HAVE ANOTHER ONE ON THE BACK OF MY NECK.
WELL, WHATEVER I DON'T CARE. MY LIFE IS LIKE FLOWING WATER ANYWAY.
HEY, AKITO! DIDN'T YOU HEAR THE ANNOUNCEMENT!? PILOTS ARE TO BE READY IN THEIR COCKPITS.
WHA
HUH?!


THE FLAME FORTRESS HAS JUST PASSED INTO THE ATMO-SPHERE!!
IT WILL BE ON TOP OF THE NADESICO IN FIVE MINUTES!!
ZOOM
ZOOM
ZOOM


ALL HANDS, BRACE FOR IMPACT.
CONFIRMED HIGH ENERGY BAND FOCUSED IN THE CENTER OF THE FORTRESS!!

AND ON

KRAK
SW
BOOM
WHOOSH

FUOM

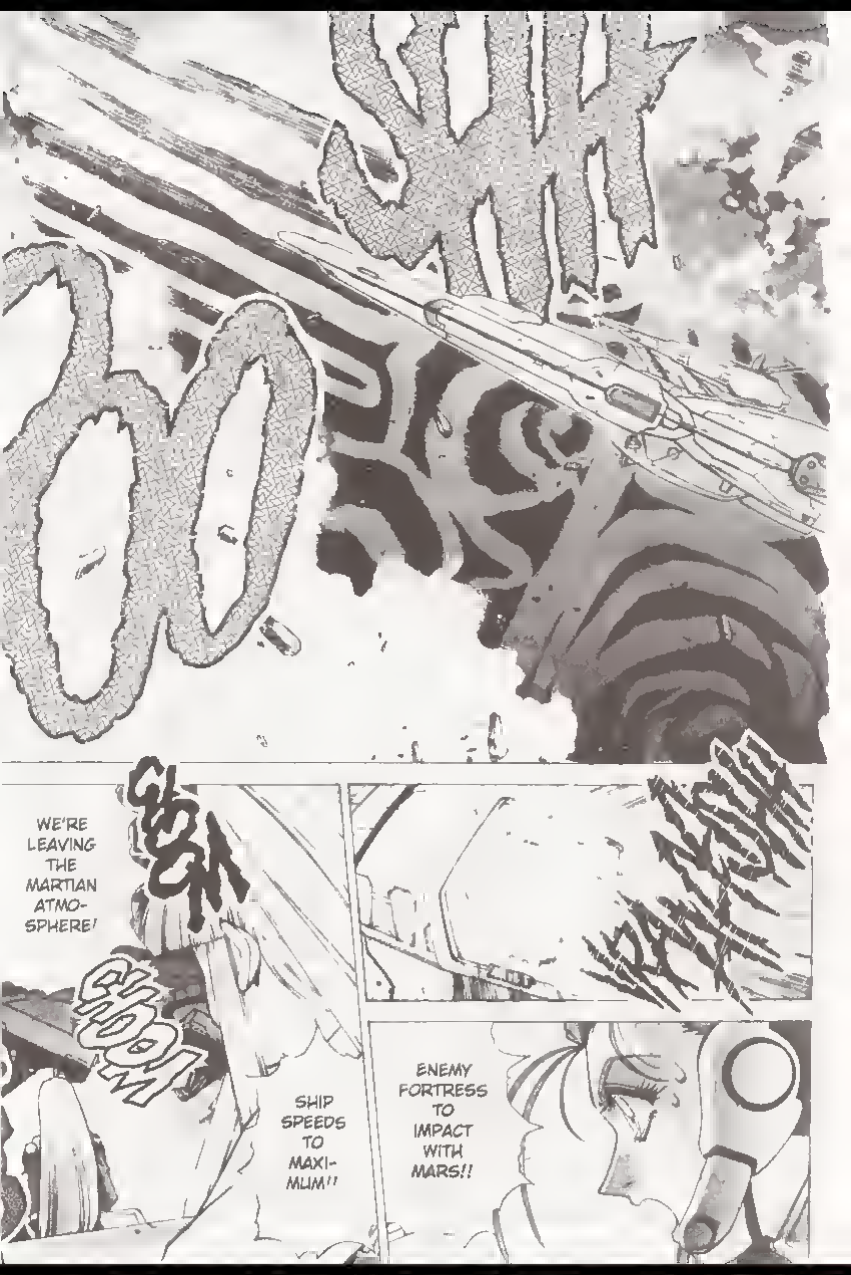
GOOO

轟天!! ヤマト＝ナデシコ

THUNDERING YAMATO=NADESICO

OPEN MAIN PLASMA SHOCK CANNONS!!
AUTOMATIC TARGETING! SIMUL-TANEOUS FIRING!!
FIRE!
FWOOSH
FWOOSH
FWOOSH

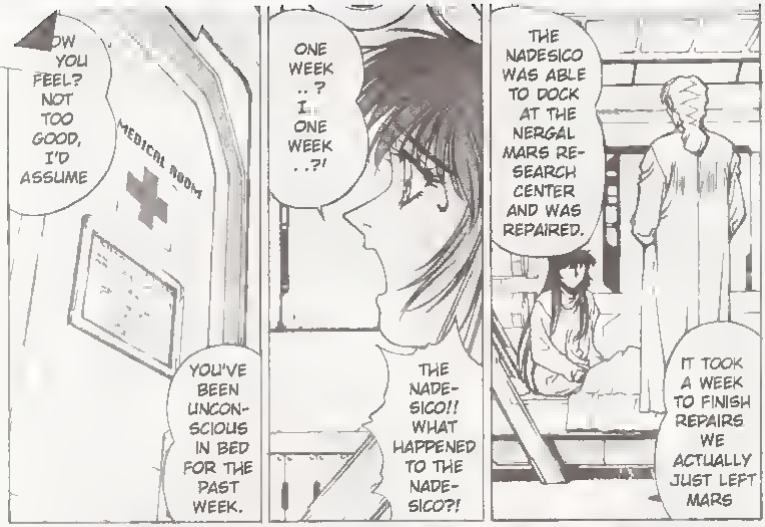
DIRECT HIT ON THE FORTRESS!! PREPARE ANOTHER HIGH-ENERGY FOCUS! FOURTH WAVE APPROACHING.
FIRE MULTIPLE BLASTS DIRECTLY INTO ITS CENTER!!
KRE
KRE
WASH
WASH
WE DID IT! EXPLOSION IN THE FORTRESS!! LOOKS LIKE THE HIGH-ENERGY FOCUS OF THE PLASMA SHOCK CANNON BLASTS WORKED!!
THE ENEMY FORTRESS IS GOING DOWN!!

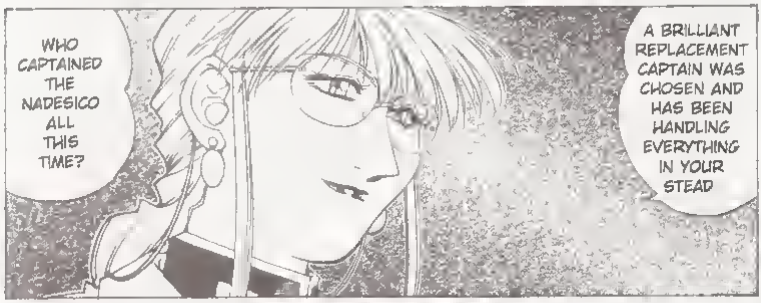

WE'RE LEAVING THE MARTIAN ATMO-SPHERE!
SHIP SPEEDS TO MAXI-MUM!!
ENEMY FORTRESS TO IMPACT WITH MARS!!

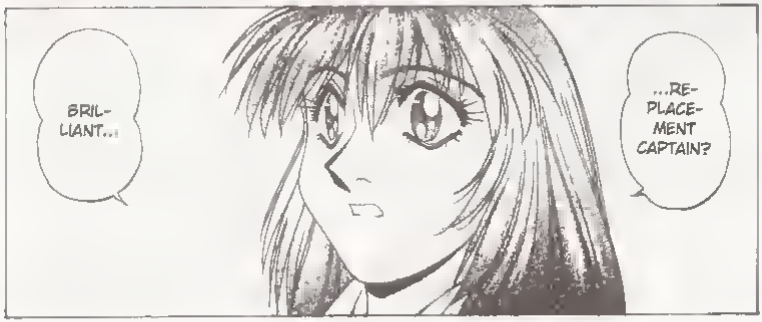
FWASH
FWASH
FWASH
FWASH
FWASH

BOOM

LEAVING MARTIAN ATMO SPHERE
UNDER-STOOD. PLOT A COURSE FOR OUR RETURN TO EARTH!
PI NG
DETECTING TWO UNIDENTI-FIED OBJECTS APPROACHING FROM BEHIND MARS!!
WASN'T THERE ONLY ONE FOR-TRESS!?
THIS IS VERY BAD.
WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO, REPLACE-MENT CAPTAIN?
WE'RE LEAV-ING.
PI NG
THEY ARE IDENTICAL TO THE FORTRESS WE JUST DE-FEATED!!
WHAT A GREAT DECISION! WE SHOULD AVOID POINTLESS BATTLES. WE CAN'T AFFORD TO GO INTO THE RED ANY FURTHER ON THIS PROJECT!

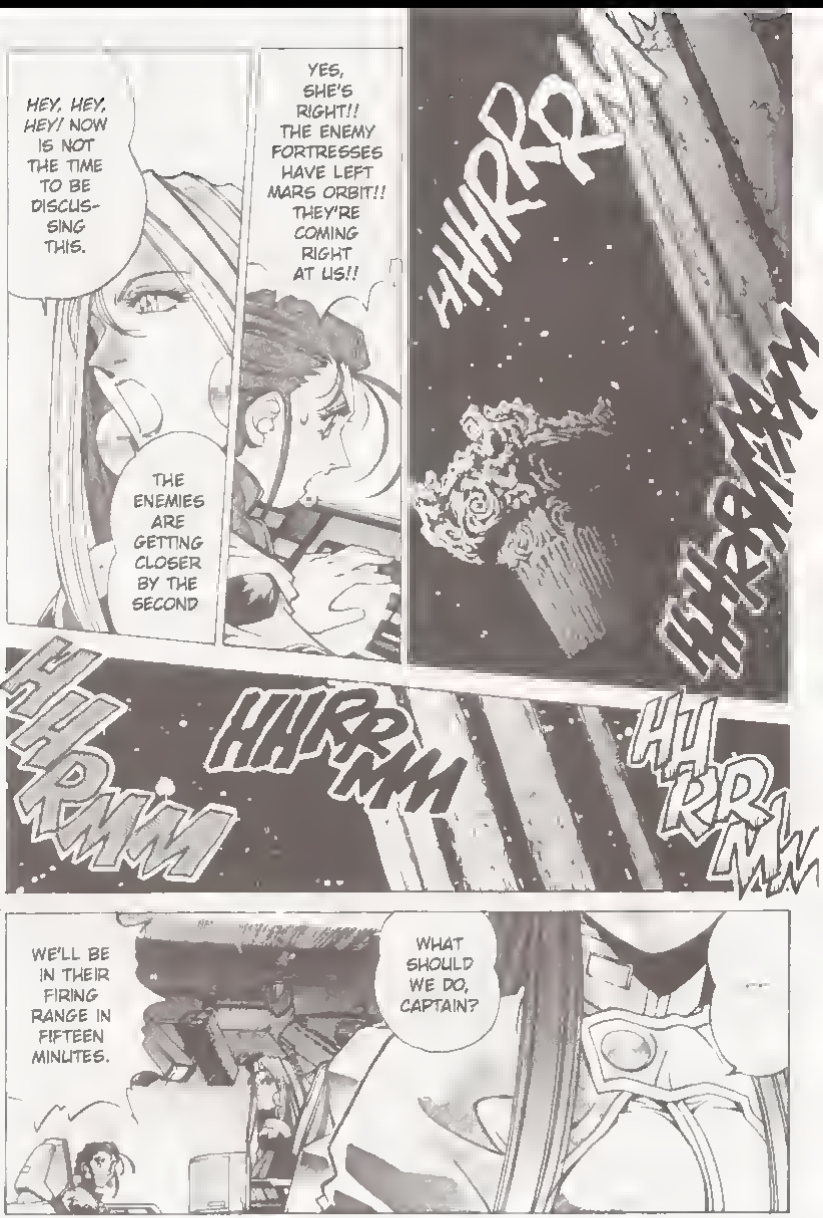

...OW YOU FEEL? NOT TOO GOOD, I'D ASSUME
MEDICAL ROOM
YOU'VE BEEN UNCONSCIOUS IN BED FOR THE PAST WEEK.
ONE WEEK..? I... ONE WEEK...?!
THE NADESICO!! WHAT HAPPENED TO THE NADESICO?!
THE NADESICO WAS ABLE TO DOCK AT THE NERGAL MARS RESEARCH CENTER AND WAS REPAIRED.
IT TOOK A WEEK TO FINISH REPAIRS WE ACTUALLY JUST LEFT MARS

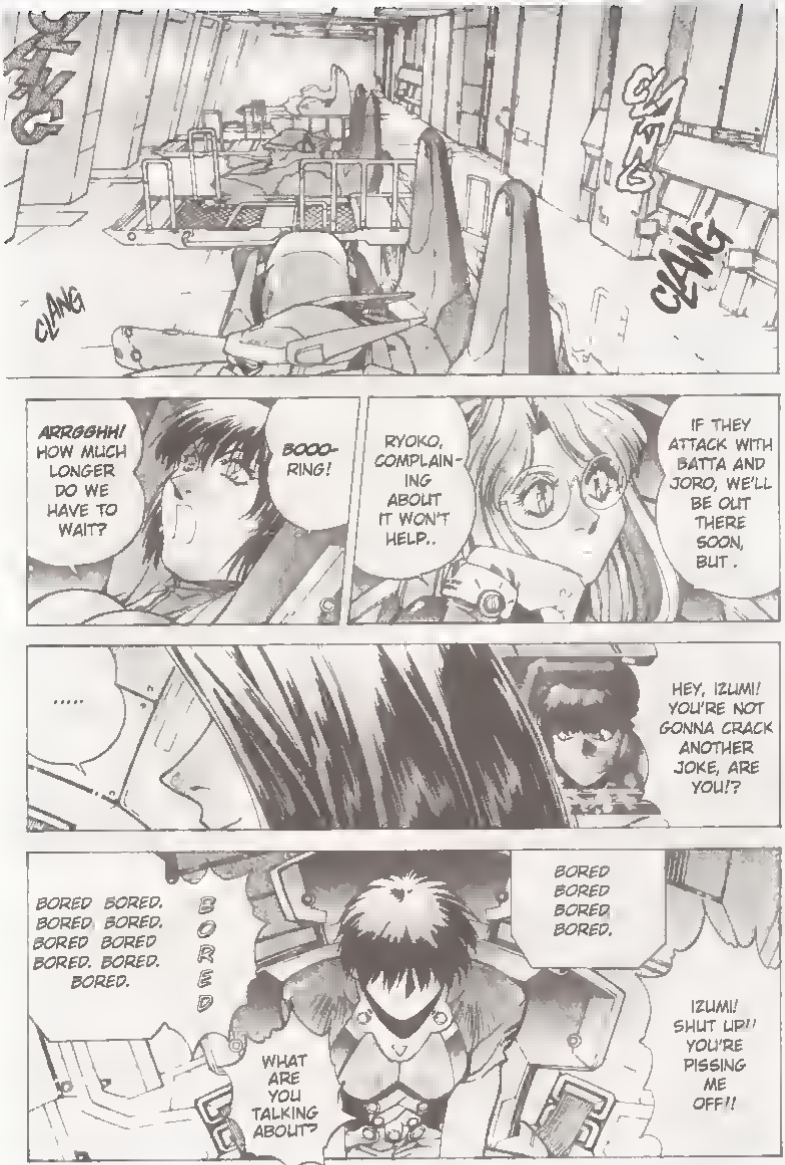

WHO CAPTAINED THE NADESICO ALL THIS TIME?
A BRILLIANT REPLACEMENT CAPTAIN WAS CHOSEN AND HAS BEEN HANDLING EVERYTHING IN YOUR STEAD

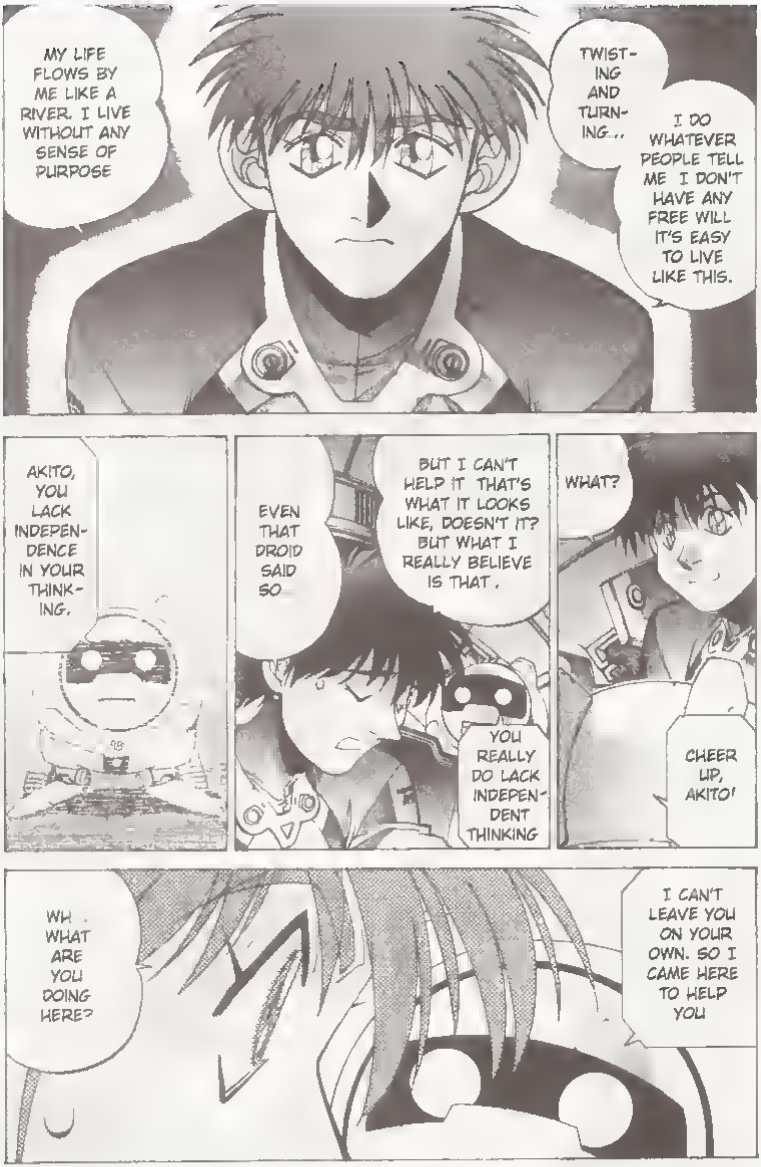

BRIL-LIANT...
...RE-PLACE-MENT CAPTAIN?

UMM..
CAPTAIN, ARE YOU OK?
HRRR
HHH
Y..YES.
RURI, I AM REALLY SORRY ABOUT ALL THIS
I WATCHED YOUR ACTIONS THROUGH THE MEMORY. YOU DID A GREAT JOB
TH... THANK YOU.
WELL, I'LL BE GOING BACK TO MY NORMAL POST NOW.

NO, RURI! PLEASE TAKE THE COMMAND CHAIR.
WHAT?
TAKE THIS, TOO.
YOUR CAPTAIN'S CAP?
I, YURIKA MISUMARU, HEREBY RESIGN MY POSITION AS CAPTAIN OF THE NADESICO IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 24 OF THE CAPTAIN'S CODE.
I WOULD LIKE TO NAME RURI HOSHINO AS MY SUCCESSOR DO YOU ACCEPT?
WHAT?
IF YOU SAY SO, CAPTAIN.
THANK YOU
...


HEY, HEY, HEY! NOW IS NOT THE TIME TO BE DISCUSSING THIS.
YES, SHE'S RIGHT!! THE ENEMY FORTRESSES HAVE LEFT MARS ORBIT!! THEY'RE COMING RIGHT AT US!!
THE ENEMIES ARE GETTING CLOSER BY THE SECOND
HHRRMM
HHRRMM
HHRRMM
HHRRMM
WE'LL BE IN THEIR FIRING RANGE IN FIFTEEN MINUTES.
WHAT SHOULD WE DO, CAPTAIN?
...

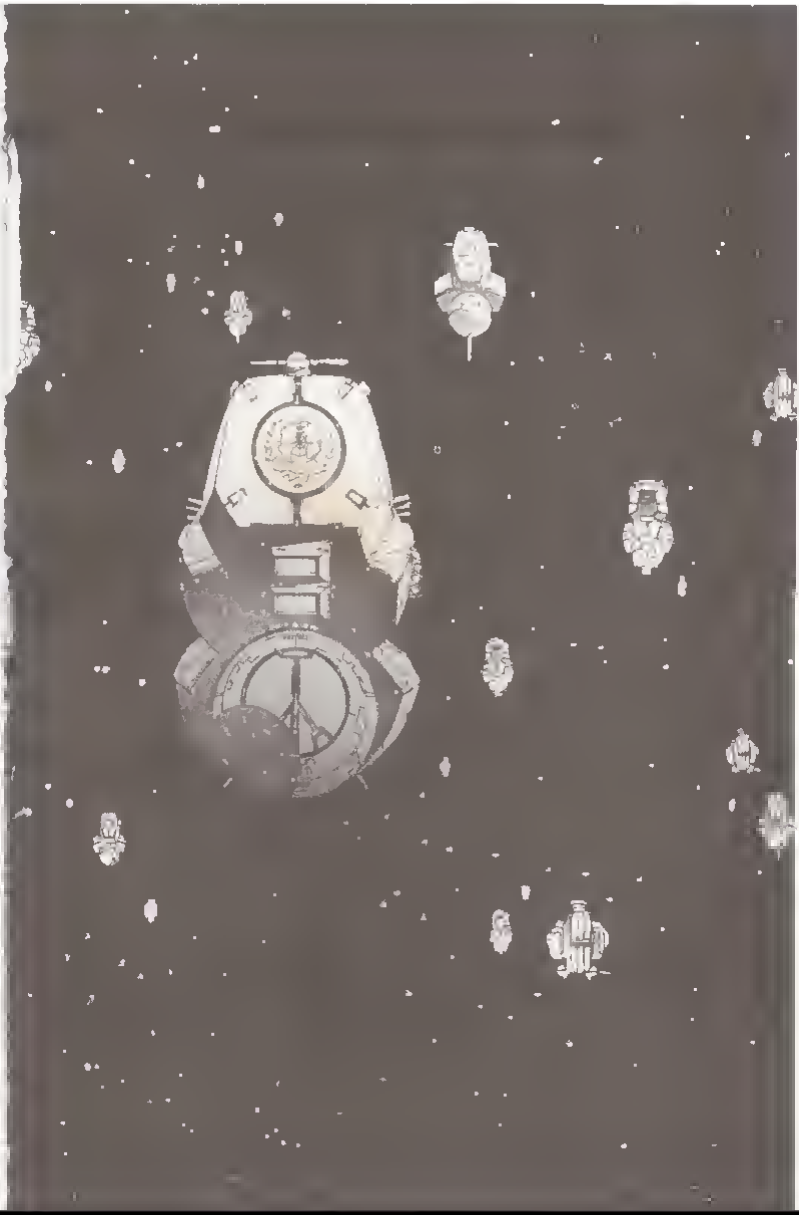

CLANG
CLANG
CLANG
ARRGGHH! HOW MUCH LONGER DO WE HAVE TO WAIT?
BOOOO-RING!
RYOKO, COMPLAIN-ING ABOUT IT WON'T HELP..
IF THEY ATTACK WITH BATTA AND JORO, WE'LL BE OUT THERE SOON, BUT .
.....
HEY, IZUMI! YOU'RE NOT GONNA CRACK ANOTHER JOKE, ARE YOU!?
BORED BORED. BORED BORED. BORED BORED BORED. BORED.
BORED
BORED BORED BORED.
IZUMI! SHUT UP!! YOU'RE PISSING ME OFF!!
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?


MY LIFE FLOWS BY ME LIKE A RIVER. I LIVE WITHOUT ANY SENSE OF PURPOSE
TWIST-ING AND TURN-ING...
I DO WHATEVER PEOPLE TELL ME I DON'T HAVE ANY FREE WILL IT'S EASY TO LIVE LIKE THIS.
AKITO, YOU LACK INDEPEN-DENCE IN YOUR THINK-ING.
EVEN THAT DROID SAID SO...
BUT I CAN'T HELP IT THAT'S WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE, DOESN'T IT? BUT WHAT I REALLY BELIEVE IS THAT.
YOU REALLY DO LACK INDEPEN-DENT THINKING
WHAT?
CHEER UP, AKITO!
WH . WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
I CAN'T LEAVE YOU ON YOUR OWN. SO I CAME HERE TO HELP YOU

YOU CAME HERE FOR ME...?
HAPPY?
THANK YOU.
OK. OK.
WE'RE NOW WITHIN THEIR RANGE!!
WE SHOULD POWER THE DISTORTION FIELD TO THE MAX.
.....
THAT'S...
WHAT'S HAPPENED? REPLACEMENT CAP...NO, I MEAN, CAPTAIN?

MEGUMI, EXPAND OUR RADAR RANGE. DO YOU SEE ANY-THING OUT IN FRONT OF US?
WHAT?!
I'M NOW DETECTING SEVERAL OBJECTS COMING INTO RANGE!! I'M CHECKING THEIR CODES!
ARE THEY ENEMIES? IF THEY ARE, WE'VE GOT A HUGE PROBLEM.
EXPAND-ING RADAR RANGE THIS IS ...WAIT!
PICKING UP 260 OBJECTS IN TOTAL!
WOLVES TO THE NORTH, TIGERS TO SOUTH, AS THEY SAY.
BLOCKED FROM EVERY DIREC-TION.
CAPTAIN, WHAT SHOULD WE DO?
CON-TINUE AHEAD, ON COURSE.
CONFIRM-ING THE CODES OF THE OBJECTS AHEAD OF US!!
IT'S.

IT'S THE UNITED EARTH GOVERN-MENT MOON BASE FLEET!!



Knock
Knock
YURIKA, CAN I TALK TO YOU A SEC?
INES?

WHY DID YOU QUIT?
.. ..
I'VE LOST MY CONFIDENCE. I WAS SUPPOSED TO LEAD AND PROTECT THE CREW, BUT..
I ONLY END UP GET-TING IN THEIR WAY.
I LED THEM INTO A DANGEROUS SITUATION. HOW COULD I CONTINUE AS CAPTAIN?
I THINK RURI IS THE RIGHT PERSON FOR THE JOB NOT ME
INES, DON'T YOU THINK SO?
NO, I DON'T THINK SO.
INES...
YOU HAVE THE POWER TO ATTRACT PEOPLE TO YOU, THE POWER TO LEAD PEOPLE.
DO YOU THINK YOU COULD LEND ME THAT POWER?
HUH?

IT'S CONFIRMED! IT'S THE NADESICO!
THE DATA'S A LITTLE DIFFERENT BUT IT'S DEFINITELY THE NADESICO!!
ADMIRAL, SHOULD WE CONTACT THE NADESICO?
YEAH
TELL THEM THAT THERE'S NO HOME FOR THEM TO GO BACK TO!
CONFIRMING ENEMY FORTRESSES DIRECTLY BEHIND THE NADESICO!!
IT LOOKS LIKE THEY'RE IN PURSUIT.
THEY WENT ON A PICNIC, HAD A NICE MEAL.
. .AND EVEN BROUGHT BACK SOUVENIRS OH, NADESICO .

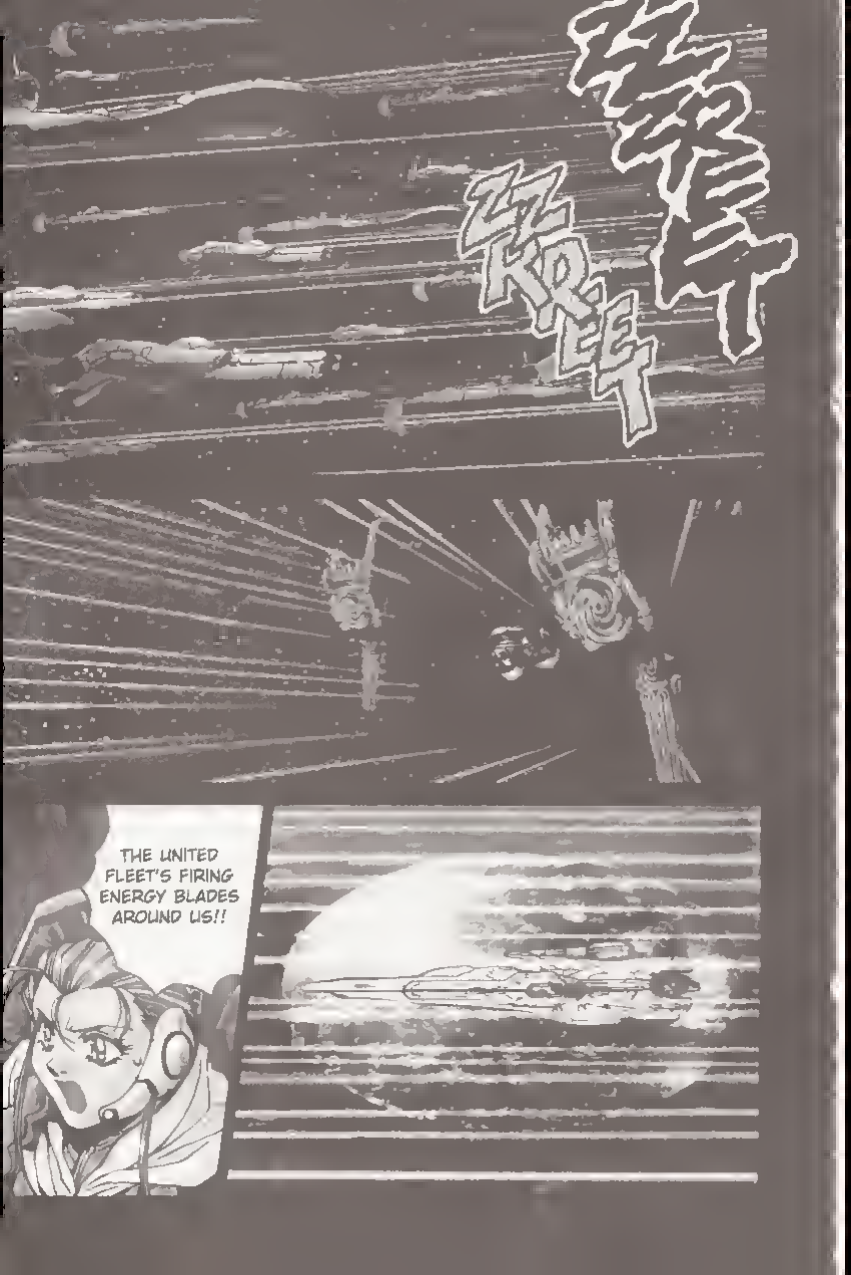
YURIKA MISUMARU, YOU'VE RETURNED SAFELY I SEE!!
I EXPECTED NOTHING LESS OF MY RIVAL!!
LADY KAGUYA, YOU CAN DEAL WITH THE NADESICO LATER.
ADMIRAL HOMEI GALEIL, WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?
THERE ARE TWO JUPITERIAN FORTRESSES FOLLOWING THE NADESICO.
WE SHOULD CLEAN UP THE MESS FIRST, DON'T YOU THINK?
WHAT?

ALL SHIPS, PREPARE TO OPEN FIRE!!
YOUR TARGETS ARE THE JUPITERIAN FORTRESSES BEHIND THE NADESICO!! BEGIN ENERGY CHARGES!
THE UNITED FLEET IS PREPARING TO ATTACK!!
CAPTAIN!!
.....
DISTORTION FIELD TO MAXIMUM!
MY... POWER?
PREPARE FOR IMPACT SHOCK!

THAT'S RIGHT... YOUR POWER..
I WANT YOU TO GET TO KNOW YOURSELF A LITTLE BETTER
HUH...?
HHHRRMM
FIRE!!
HHHRRRMM
VWAASSH

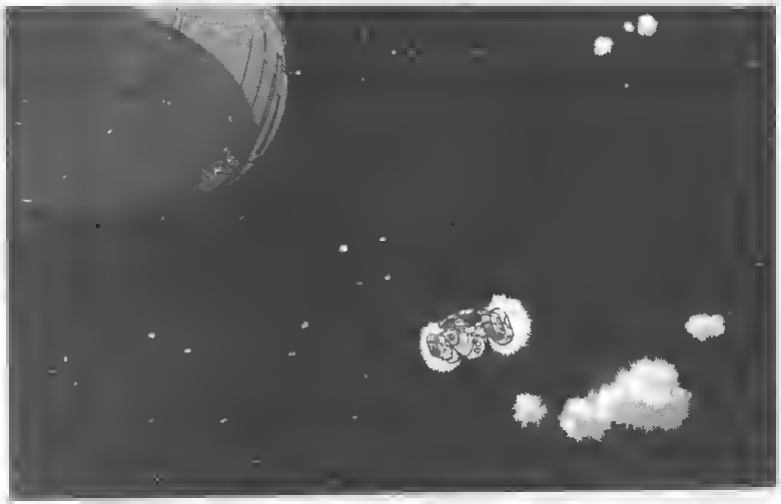
第11話 囚われのナデシコ

——BEING CAPTURED——

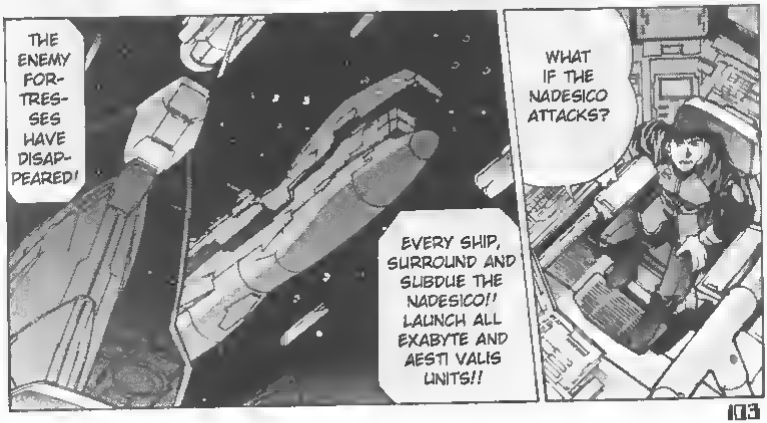

THE UNITED FLEET'S FIRING ENERGY BLADES AROUND US!!

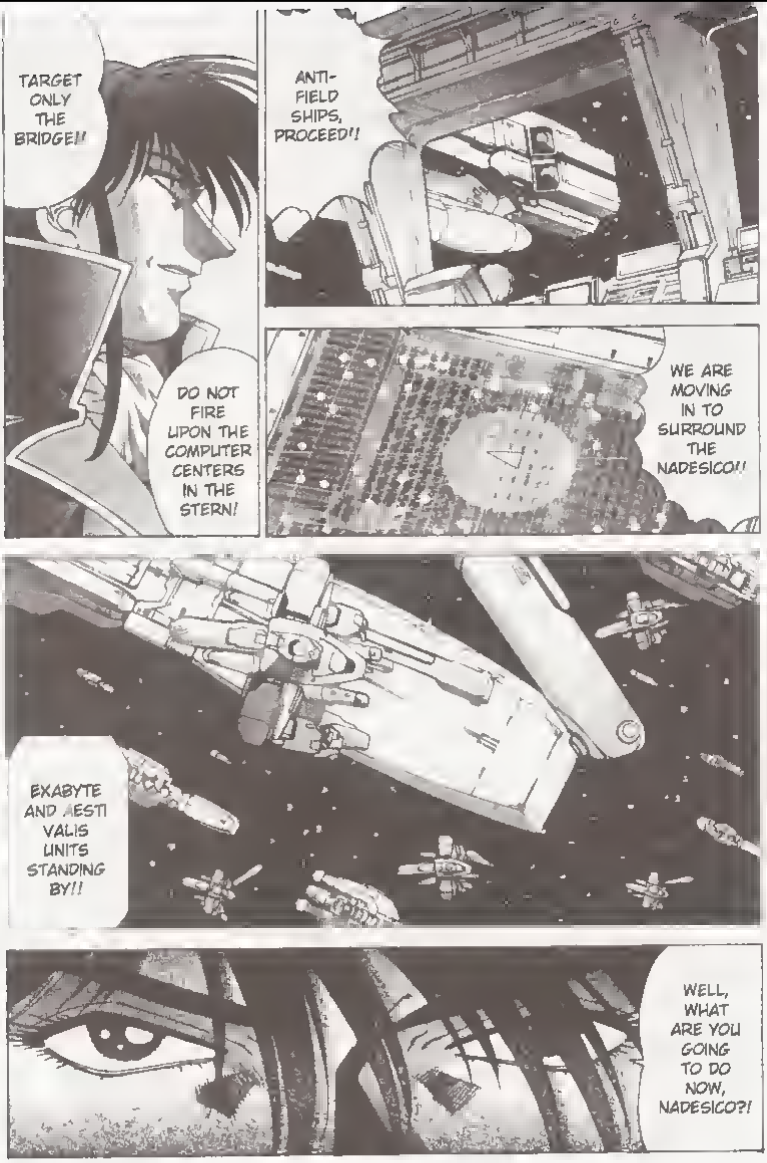
ZZRR
FW SSS
SHH

HEY, HEY, HEY! THEY KNOW WE'RE HERE WHY ARE THEY FIRING AT US?
DIDN'T SOME OF THEIR SHOTS HIT THEIR TARGETS?
HAR-UKA!
FULL SPEED AHEAD!!!
TOWARD THE UNITED FLEET!
OK, OK
PLP!
FW WOO OSSSHHH
WWOOOSSH



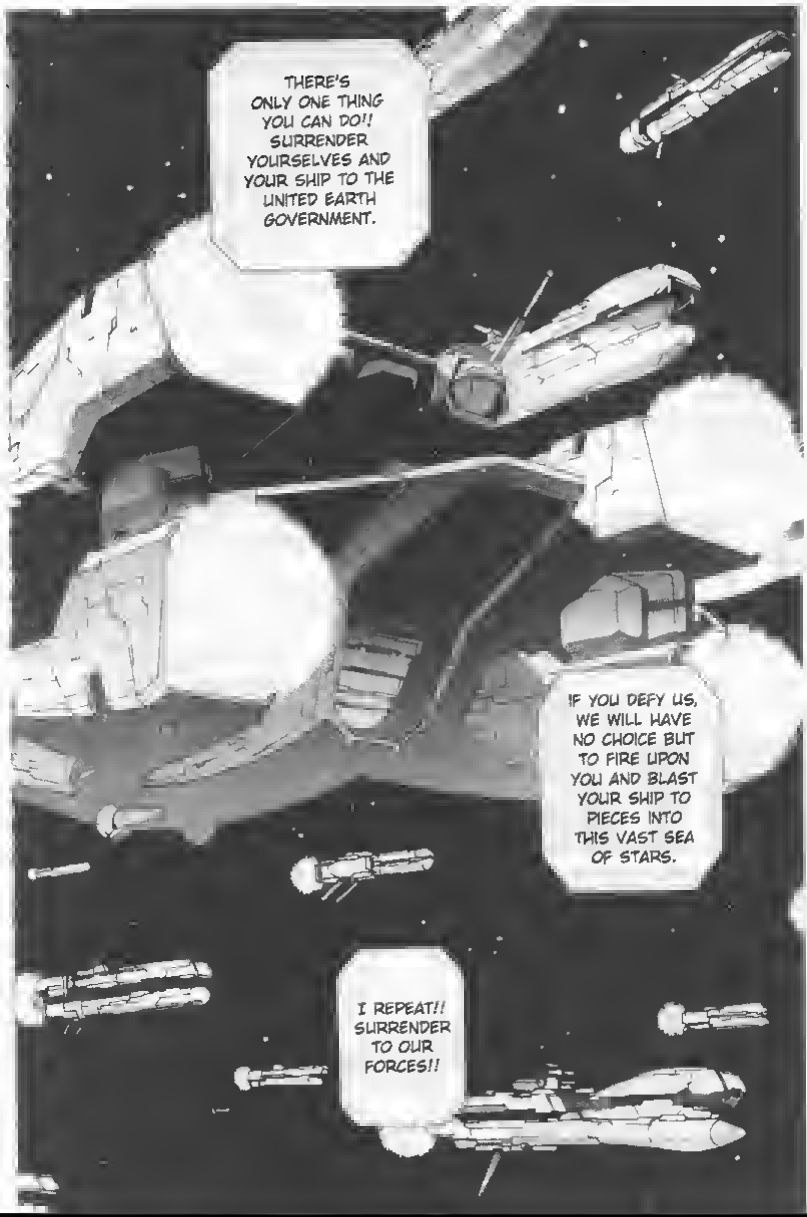
THE ENEMY FORTRESSES HAVE DISAPPEARED. THEY WEREN'T DESTROYED BY THE ATTACK. THEY VANISHED JUST BEFORE THE IMPACT! JUST LIKE THAT!!
I CAN'T FIND THEM ANYWHERE WITHIN THE NADESICO'S RADAR RANGE!! WHAT'S GOING ON ..?


THE ENEMY FORTRESSES HAVE DISAPPEARED!
EVERY SHIP, SURROUND AND SUBDUE THE NADESICO!! LAUNCH ALL EXABYTE AND AESTI VALIS UNITS!!
WHAT IF THE NADESICO ATTACKS?


TARGET ONLY THE BRIDGE!!
DO NOT FIRE UPON THE COMPUTER CENTERS IN THE STERN!
ANTI-FIELD SHIPS, PROCEED!!
WE ARE MOVING IN TO SURROUND THE NADESICO!!
EXABYTE AND AESTI VALIS UNITS STANDING BY!!
WELL, WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO NOW, NADESICO?!

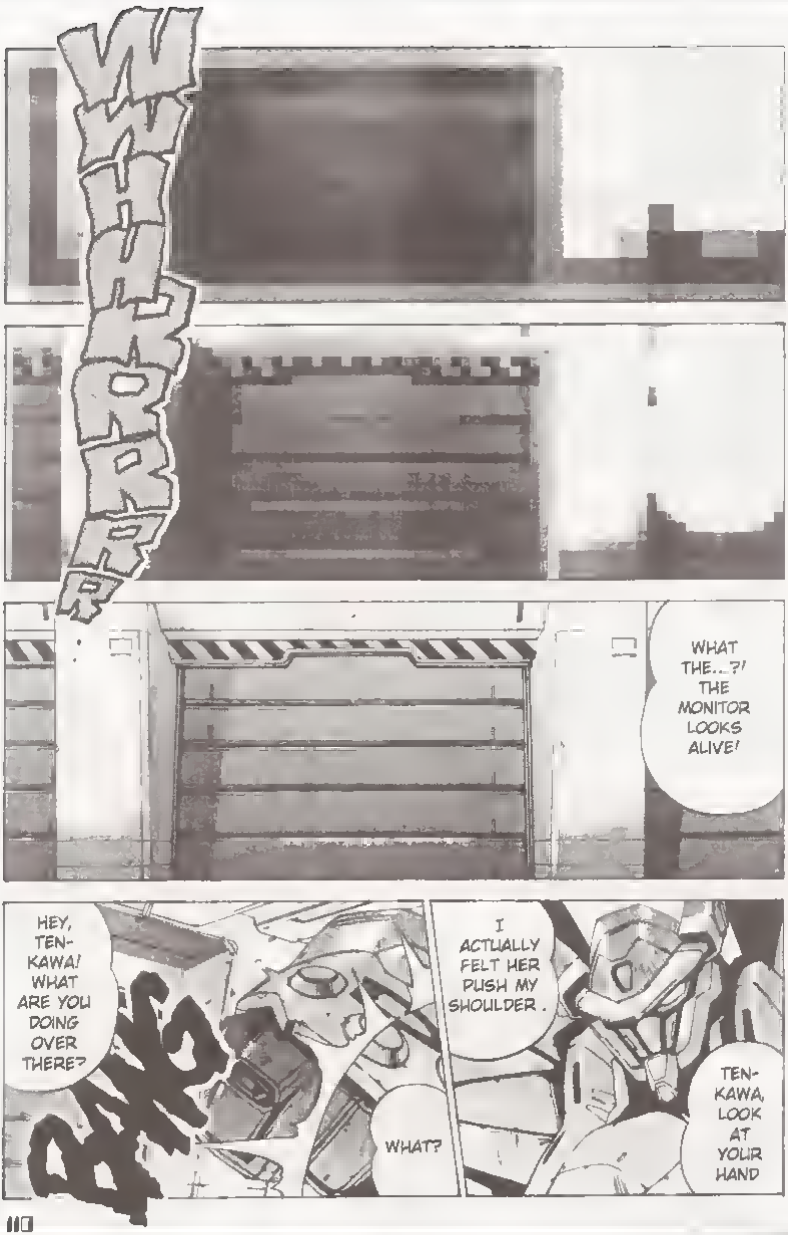
OH, NOOOO. IT LOOKS LIKE THEY'RE LOOKING FOR A FIGHT.
SIGH.
PUT OUR EXABYTES ON STANDBY AS WELL!
UNDER-STOOD
CAPTAIN RURI! DON'T SHOOT FIRST!! THEIR FIREPOWER IS BY FAR GREATER THAN OURS!
I KNOW.
IT WOULD BE BEST IF WE JUST SIT HERE AND DO NOTHING.
HUH...?
ANYWAY, THIS IS QUITE THE WARM WELCOME FOR THE NADESICO, EH?

NERGAL HEAVY INDUSTRIES, NG-SF-23F, SPACE CRUISER NADESICO! DO YOU READ ME? THIS IS HOMEI GALEIL, CAPTAIN OF THE OTOTACHIBANA, COMMANDER OF THE UNITED EARTH GOVERNMENT MOON BASE FLEET!
ASUKA INDUSTRIES HAS ABSORBED YOUR FORMER COMPANY, NERGAL!! THERE IS NO PLACE FOR YOU TO GO BACK TO NOW!!

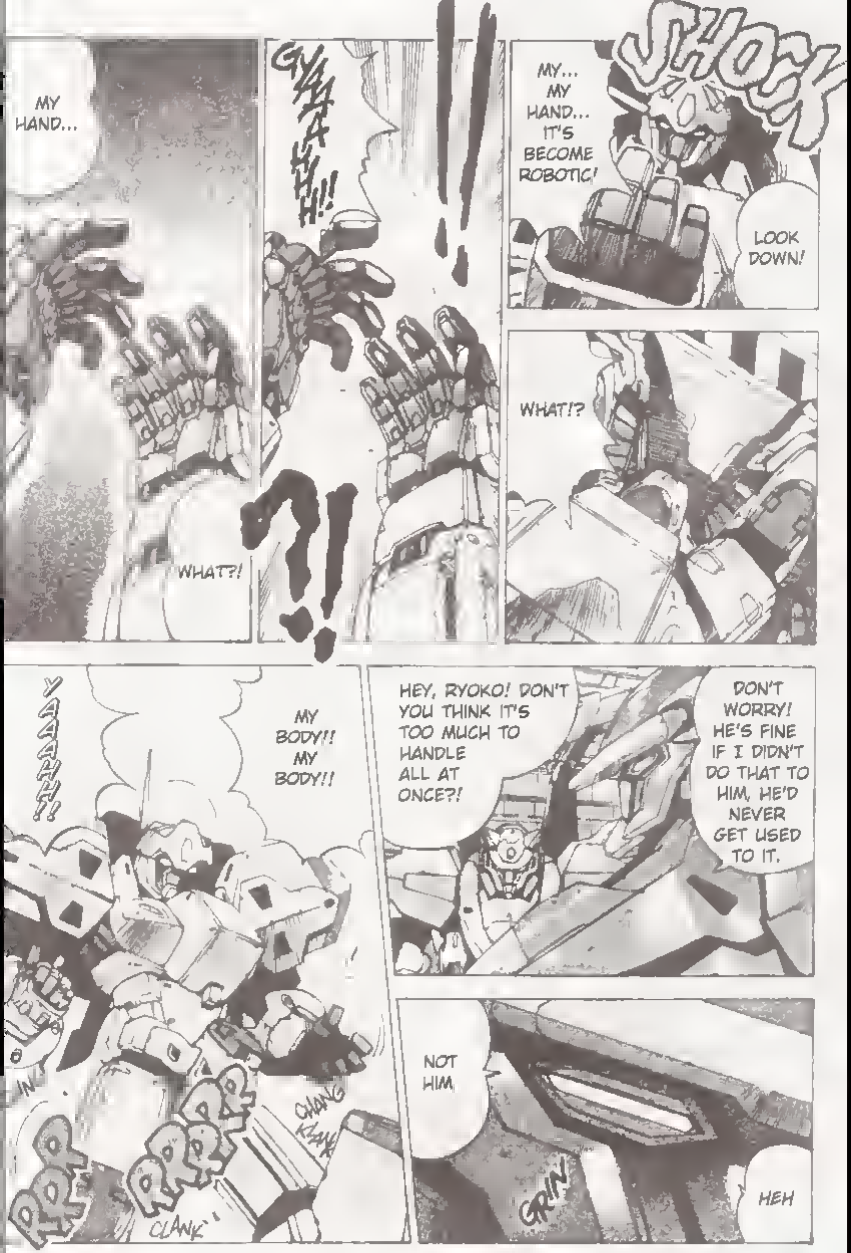

THERE'S ONLY ONE THING YOU CAN DO!! SURRENDER YOURSELVES AND YOUR SHIP TO THE UNITED EARTH GOVERNMENT.
IF YOU DEFY US, WE WILL HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO FIRE UPON YOU AND BLAST YOUR SHIP TO PIECES INTO THIS VAST SEA OF STARS.
I REPEAT!! SURRENDER TO OUR FORCES!!

THERE IS NO NERGAL ANY-MORE?!
NO, THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE!! WE DIDN'T GET ANY SUCH COMMUNI-CATION!!
WE MIGHT BE PART OF THEIR RESTRUC-TURING.
SHOCK!
HUH? IT LOOKS PRETTY BUSY OUT THERE
TEN-KAWA, GET READY TO GO!
REACT, ACTION!!
WHEE! WHEE!
OH . OK.
PILOT, AKITO TENKAWA, CONFIRMED. REACT SYSTEM, ACTIVATED!
WHAT? WHERE'D 98 GO?

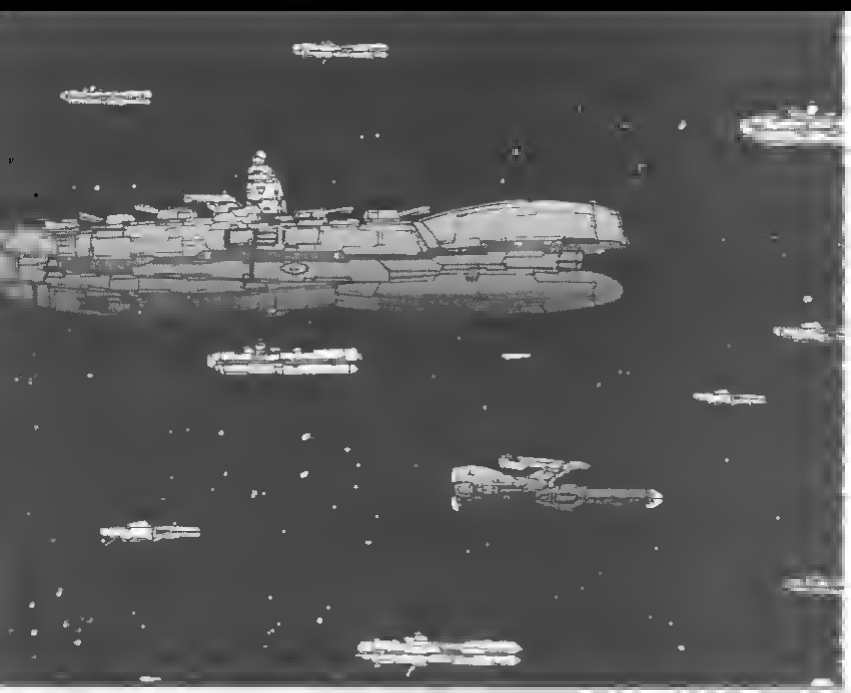
WOW!
SIGHT REACT
HEARING REACT
SMELL REACT
UUGH..
HT REACT
ARING REACT
MELL REACT
FEELING REACT
WHAT'S THIS?
FEELING REACT
TOUCH REACT
MAVERICK ELECTRICITY REACT S
MAVERICK ELECTRON REACT SYSTEM ENGAGED.
ELECTRICITY REACT SYSTE

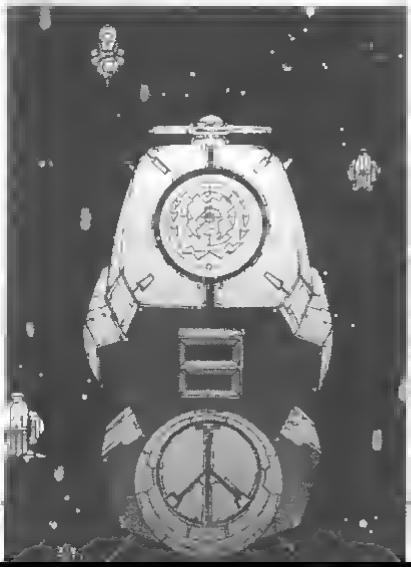

WHISPERS
WHAT THE...?! THE MONITOR LOOKS ALIVE!
HEY, TEN-KAWA! WHAT ARE YOU DOING OVER THERE?
BANG
WHAT?
I ACTUALLY FELT HER PUSH MY SHOULDER.
TEN-KAWA, LOOK AT YOUR HAND

MY HAND.
GYAAAAHHH!!
!!
?!
WHAT?!
SHOCK
MY.. MY HAND... IT'S BECOME ROBOTIC!
LOOK DOWN!
WHAT!?
YAAAHH!!
MY BODY!! MY BODY!!
CHING
RRR
RRRR
CLANK
CHANG
KLANK
HEY, RYOKO! DON'T YOU THINK IT'S TOO MUCH TO HANDLE ALL AT ONCE?!
DON'T WORRY! HE'S FINE IF I DIDN'T DO THAT TO HIM, HE'D NEVER GET USED TO IT
NOT HIM.
GRIN
HEH

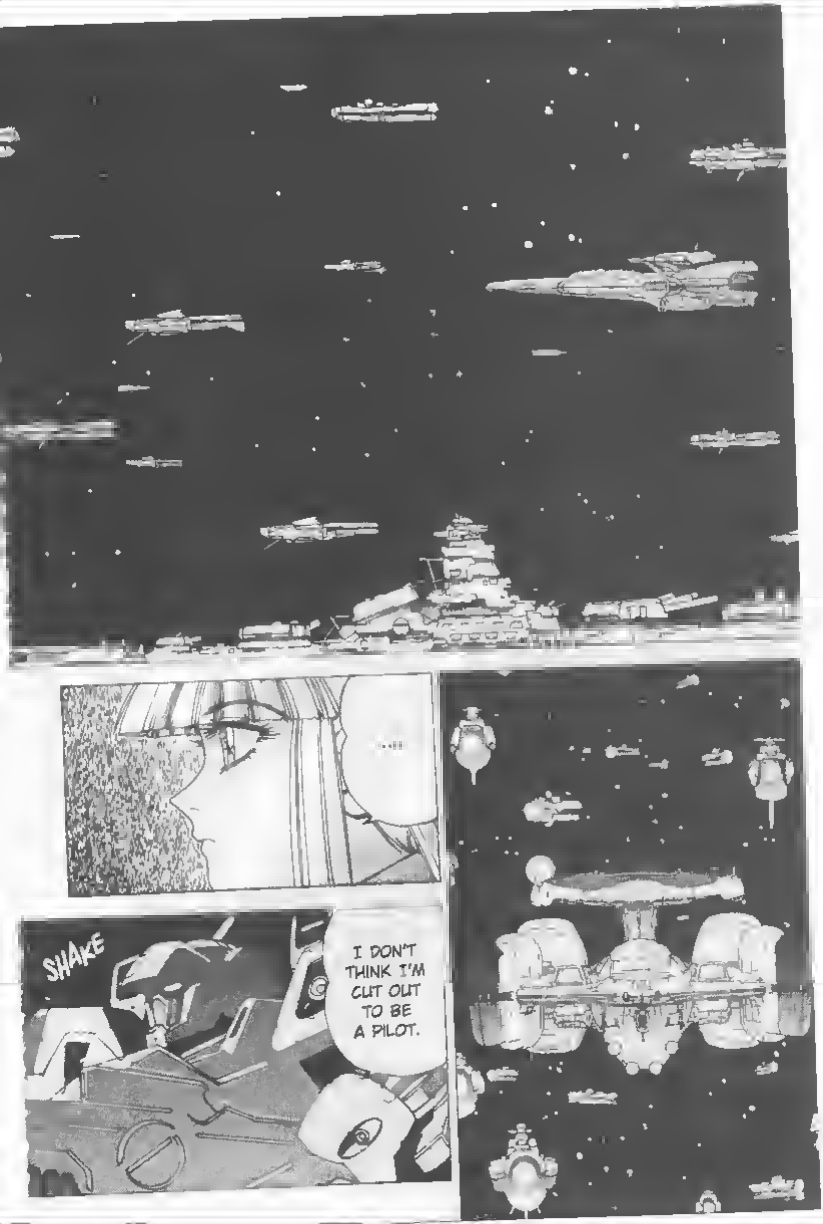

MY HAND...
GYAAAHH!!
WHAT?!
SHOCK
MY... MY HAND... IT'S BECOME ROBOTIC!
LOOK DOWN!
WHAT!?
YAAAHH!
MY BODY!! MY BODY!!
RRR
RRRR
CLANK
CHANG KLANK
HEY, RYOKO! DON'T YOU THINK IT'S TOO MUCH TO HANDLE ALL AT ONCE?!
DON'T WORRY! HE'S FINE IF I DIDN'T DO THAT TO HIM, HE'D NEVER GET USED TO IT.
NOT HIM
GRIN
HEH

IT'S WEIRD. I'M ACTUALLY WATCHING A ROBOT SHIVER.
CLANK
CLANK
CLANK
WHEN YOU'RE IN A REACT SYSTEM, YOU'RE COMPLETELY ASSIMILATED WITH THE ROBOT
IT'S THE SAME THING AS IF YOU WERE STANDING NAKED OUT IN SPACE.
SO COLD
LOTS OF PEOPLE HAVE LOST THEIR MINDS.
YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE LET HIM GET IN
BUT HE HAS REAL BATTLE EXPERIENCE. ON TWO OCCASIONS
HE HAS MORE EXPERI-ENCE THAN US
TRUE WE'VE DONE THIS HUNDREDS OF TIMES, BUT ONLY IN SIMULA-TIONS
OUR EXABYTE TEAM IS NOW STANDING BY!!
HARUKA, CUT BOTH STAR-BOARD ENGINES





UUGGHH...
SHAKE


...!!!
SHAKE
I DON'T THINK I'M CUT OUT TO BE A PILOT.

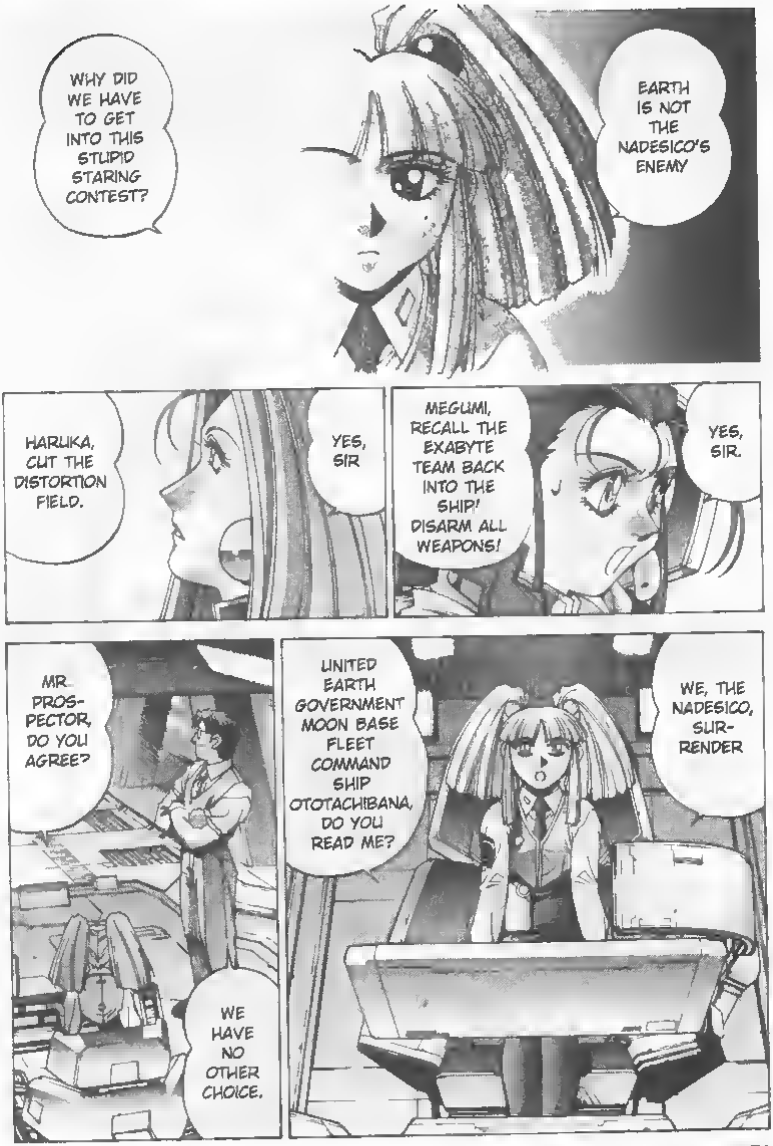
SEE YOU, YURIKA.
SO YOU SURVIVE THE COMING BATTLE.
HA, HA. FOR LUCK. JUST FOR LUCK.
WH... WHAT?
THUMP
I WILL DEFINITEL MAKE HE OURS
HA HA HA. SHE'S SO CUTE

HUH?
IT LOOKS LIKE IT'S GETTING SERIOUS.
BUT I DON'T REALLY CARE...
WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN TO ME...?
.....
AKITO...

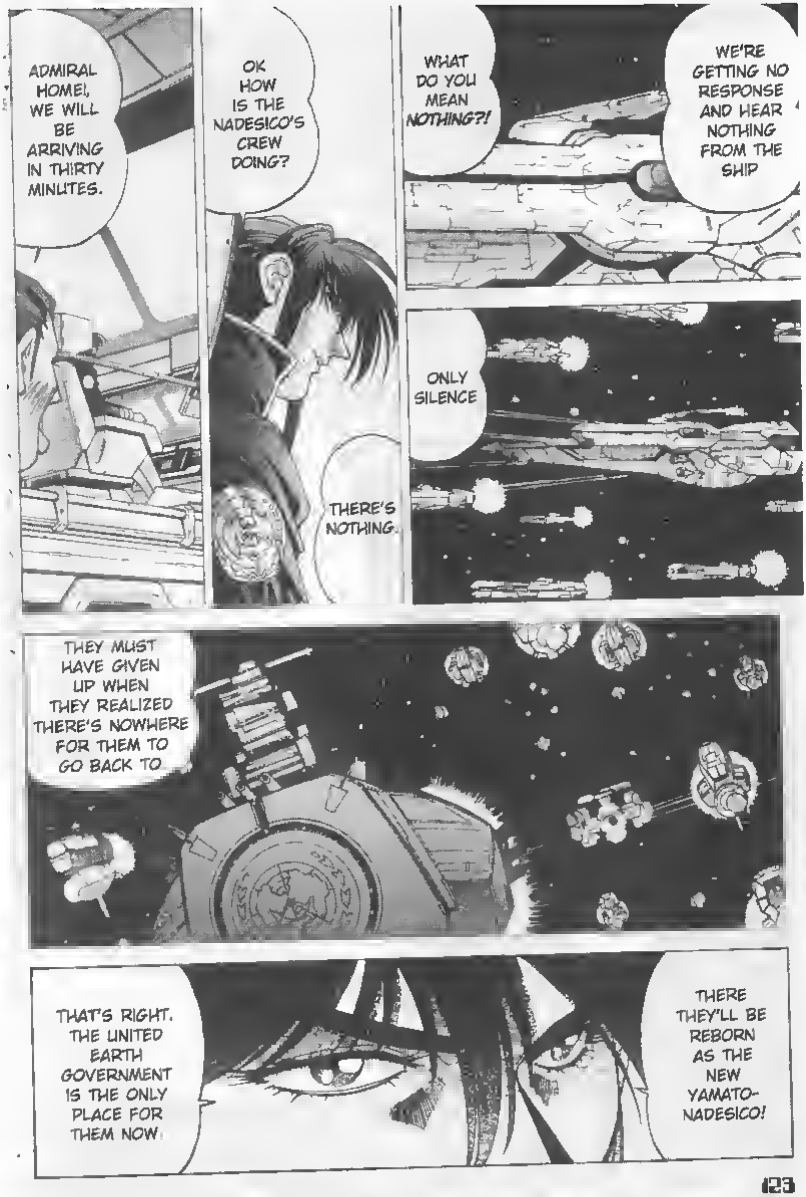
AKITO...
I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO. WHY WON'T AKITO COME TO BE WITH ME?
EVER SINCE WE GOT ON THE NADESICO, HE NEVER...
I NEED AKITO. WHY ISN'T HE HERE WITH ME?
DRIP
DRIP
I'M LONELY... HERE IN THIS DARK ROOM... ALL ALONE...
AKITO...
I WANT YOU HERE WITH ME
AKITO...
SOB SOB!
YURI-KA...
SNIFF
SNIFF

AKITO... I WANT YOU TO ALWAYS BE WITH ME.. AKITO...
AKITO, DON'T LEAVE ME ALONE. WHERE ARE YOU, AKITO?
HE'S OUT HERE
SHIVER
SHIVER
WAAHHH! I'M SCARED! I'M SO SCARED!

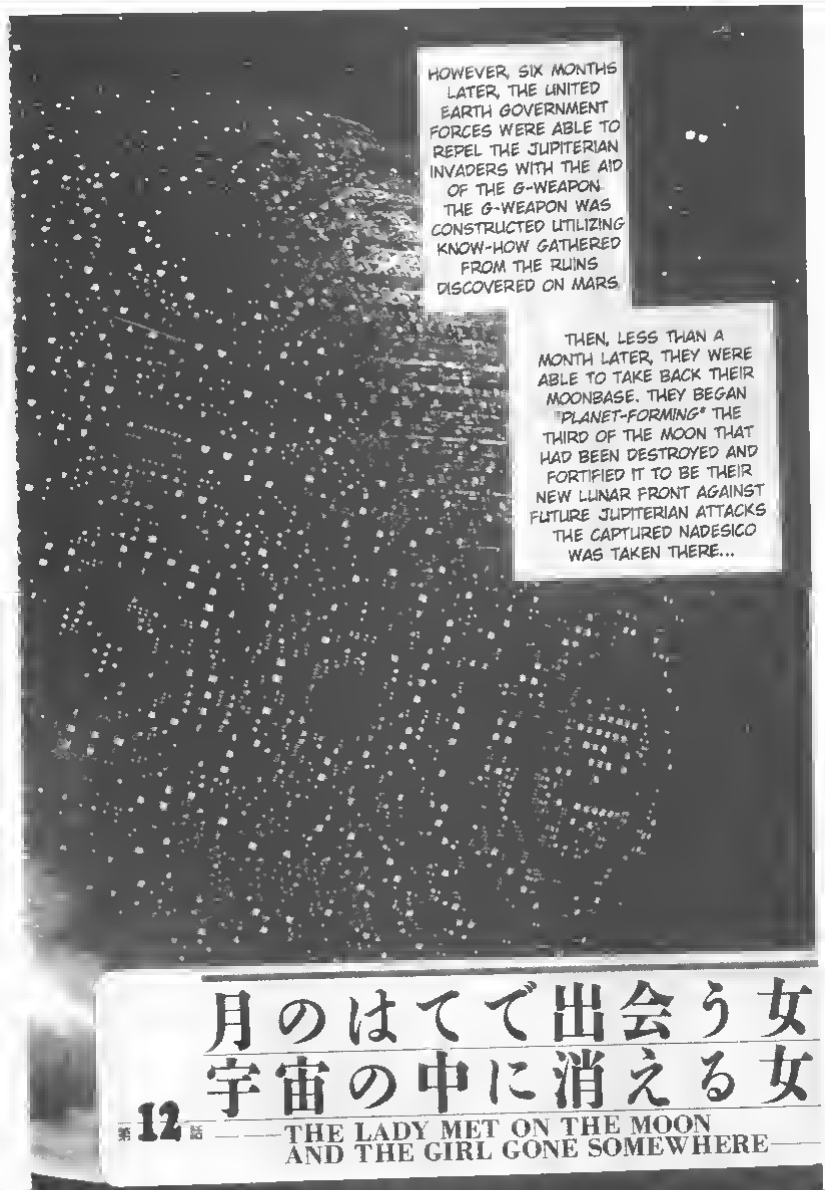
!
CLANG
WHAT? EYE CONTACT! I'VE MADE EYE CONTACT!
SHOCK
WHAT SHOULD I DO?! WHAT SHOULD I DO?!
THE NADESICO IS COMPLETELY SURROUNDED!!
ALL SHIPS, HOLD POSITION AROUND THE NADESICO!! COMPLETELY BLOCK ANY POSSIBLE MOVEMENT! SHIPS 4, 12, 25 AND 53, PREPARE TO FIRE DRAG ANCHORS.


WHY DID WE HAVE TO GET INTO THIS STUPID STARING CONTEST?
EARTH IS NOT THE NADESICO'S ENEMY
HARUKA, CUT THE DISTORTION FIELD.
YES, SIR
MEGUMI, RECALL THE EXABYTE TEAM BACK INTO THE SHIP! DISARM ALL WEAPONS!
YES, SIR.
MR. PROSPECTOR, DO YOU AGREE?
WE HAVE NO OTHER CHOICE.
UNITED EARTH GOVERNMENT MOON BASE FLEET COMMAND SHIP OTOTACHIBANA, DO YOU READ ME?
WE, THE NADESICO, SURRENDER

FWOOSH
FWOOSH
THONK
THONK
THONK
HA HA HA YOUR FINAL DECISION HERE WAS A WISE ONE, NADESICO.
I FEEL LIKE MEETING THIS CAPTAIN OF THEIRS.
THE NADESICO HAS BEEN ENSNARED!!
BRING THEM BACK TO THE MOON BASE!


ADMIRAL HOME, WE WILL BE ARRIVING IN THIRTY MINUTES.
OK HOW IS THE NADESICO'S CREW DOING?
THERE'S NOTHING.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN NOTHING?!
WE'RE GETTING NO RESPONSE AND HEAR NOTHING FROM THE SHIP
ONLY SILENCE
THEY MUST HAVE GIVEN UP WHEN THEY REALIZED THERE'S NOWHERE FOR THEM TO GO BACK TO.
THAT'S RIGHT. THE UNITED EARTH GOVERNMENT IS THE ONLY PLACE FOR THEM NOW.
THERE THEY'LL BE REBORN AS THE NEW YAMATO-NADESICO!

AFTER THE FIRST AND SECOND MARTIAN WARS, THE UNITED EARTH GOVERNMENT FORCES WERE DRIVEN BACK INTO THE EARTH'S ATMOSPHERE. IN AN OFFENSIVE PUSH, THE JUPITERIANS ALSO INVADED THE MOON AND THUS BEGAN THE LUNAR WAR. IT LASTED FOR A MONTH AND CAME TO BE KNOWN AS THE "HALF MOON HUMILIATION"
ONE-THIRD OF THE MOON WAS DECIMATED AND THE UNITED EARTH GOVERNMENT WAS FORCED TO EVACUATE THEIR MOON BASE AS WELL. FOLLOWING THEM IN THEIR RETREAT THE MONORIS WERE LAUNCHED AT EARTH


HOWEVER, SIX MONTHS LATER, THE UNITED EARTH GOVERNMENT FORCES WERE ABLE TO REPEL THE JUPITERIAN INVADERS WITH THE AID OF THE G-WEAPON. THE G-WEAPON WAS CONSTRUCTED UTILIZING KNOW-HOW GATHERED FROM THE RUINS DISCOVERED ON MARS.
THEN, LESS THAN A MONTH LATER, THEY WERE ABLE TO TAKE BACK THEIR MOONBASE. THEY BEGAN "PLANET-FORMING" THE THIRD OF THE MOON THAT HAD BEEN DESTROYED AND FORTIFIED IT TO BE THEIR NEW LUNAR FRONT AGAINST FUTURE JUPITERIAN ATTACKS. THE CAPTURED NADESICO WAS TAKEN THERE...

月のはてで出会う女
宇宙の中に消える女

第12話 ——THE LADY MET ON THE MOON AND THE GIRL GONE SOMEWHERE——

CLANG
BLEEP.
ADMIRAL HOMEI, I'VE BROUGHT THE CAPTAIN OF THE NADESICO.
YES, YES. COME IN.
TAK
!
CLANG
A CHILD?! THE CAPTAIN OF THE NADESICO IS A CHILD?
I AM RURI HOSHINO UNDER SECTION 24 OF THE CAPTAIN'S CODE I WAS NAMED CAPTAIN BY YURIKA MISUMARU

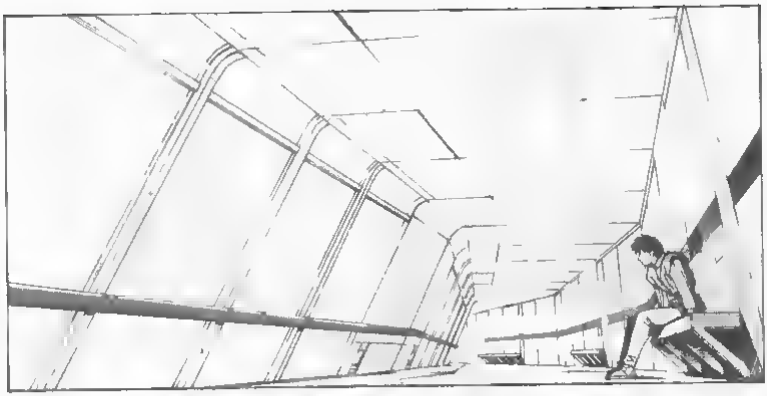
ACCORDING TO OUR INFORMATION, YURIKA MISUMARU IS STILL IN COMMAND.
WHY WASN'T IT UPDATED?
AS THE NADESICO WAS BEING PURSUED BY ENEMY FORTRESSES, WE SIMPLY DIDN'T HAVE TIME
I'M SORRY, SIR.
HMM...
.....
I SEE. ALRIGHT, YOU MAY GO.
UMM
IS THERE SOMETHING ELSE?
WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO THE CREW OF THE NADESICO?
...

WE WILL LET YOU KNOW ONCE MATTERS ARE DECIDED. WE NEED TO GO OVER AND EXAMINE ALL PERSONNEL DATA. SOME MAY BE FIRED WHILE SOME MAY BE RECRUITED FOR MILITARY SERVICE
I CAN TELL YOU, THOUGH, THAT THERE'S ALMOST NO CHANCE OF RETURNING TO THE NADESICO. THERE ARE MANY DIVISIONS IN THE MILITARY. WE'LL FIND THE RIGHT PLACES FOR YOUR PEOPLE.
I UNDER-STAND. THANK YOU.
WHOOSH
CAP-TAIN RURI
TWO MORE THINGS...
WHAT?
DID YOU REALLY NOT RECORD THE TRANSFER OF POWER BECAUSE YOU DIDN'T HAVE THE TIME?

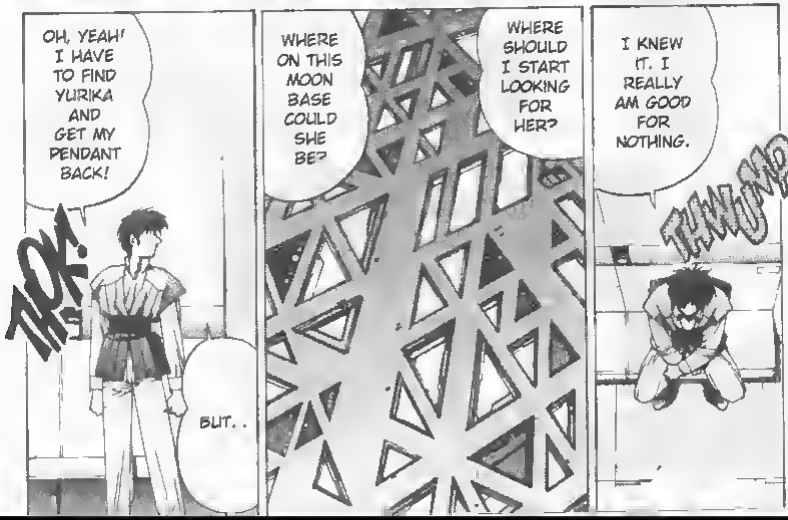
IN YOUR HEART, DID YOU LEAVE THAT DOOR OPEN FOR YURIKA TO RETURN?
.....
I CAN'T SAY. HOWEVER, IT'S TRUE THAT WE REALLY DIDN'T HAVE THE TIME
AND ONE MORE ..
DO YOU... LIKE THE NADESICO?

YES!
. . . .
EXCUSE ME.
HISSSSH

THAT'S NOT THE FACE A MAN WHO JUST CAPTURED A WARSHIP SHOULD BE MAKING.
DON'T YOU THINK IT'S RUDE TO LISTEN IN ON OTHER PEOPLE'S CONVERSATIONS?
KAIO-KUN.
I APOLOGIZE.
YOUR SECRETARY TOLD ME THAT I SHOULD WAIT OUT HERE.
I'M SORRY TO HAVE KEPT YOU WAITING.
WELL, WHAT DO YOU NEED?
HA HA HA. IT CAN WAIT FOR A MINUTE.
IT'S REALLY PRETTY INTERESTING THE NADESICO, THAT IS
YOU'VE TAKEN AN INTEREST? ONE OF YOUR BAD HABITS, I GUESS
BUT I CAN UNDERSTAND IT. THE DATA ON ALL THE MAIN CREW MEMBERS IS FASCINATING



FIRED AGAIN?! I DON'T THINK THERE ARE TOO MANY PEOPLE WHO GET FIRED THIS OFTEN.
I CAN STAY HERE AT THE BASE FOR A WEEK, BUT THEN I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO...


I KNEW IT. I REALLY AM GOOD FOR NOTHING.
THUMP
WHERE SHOULD I START LOOKING FOR HER?
WHERE ON THIS MOON BASE COULD SHE BE?
OH, YEAH! I HAVE TO FIND YURIKA AND GET MY PENDANT BACK!
THUD!
BUT..

I HAVE THE SAME PROBLEM, BOY
WHAT. ?! HARUKA?!
UUGH... YOU REEK OF BOOZE! YOU'RE DRUNK!
WHAT...
WHAT HAPPENED? WELL, I GOT FIRED TOO. THEY SAID I CAN'T JOIN THE MILITARY!
THEY ALSO SAID THIS OUTFIT IS TOO SEXY AMONG OTHER THINGS!
IF THEY THINK THEY DON'T NEED A DYNAMITE, SEXY WOMAN LIKE ME IN THE MILITARY, I QUIT
RIGHT, LITTLE BOY? WHAT DO YOU THINK? YOU DON'T LIKE ME EITHER?!
AH... NO... I DIDN'T SAY I DON'T LIKE YOU...
I LIKE YOU, HARUKA. I DO! SO ...UMM.. COULD YOU ..

CHEER ME UP, THEN! WON'T YOU SAY "DON'T WORRY, YOU POOR GIRL!", LIKE THIS?
AH... UMM... CHEER YOU UP
SAY IT!
WHY DO PEOPLE MAKE MY DECISIONS FOR ME? WHEN NERGAL ASKED ME TO TAKE THE JOB, I WAS THE ONE WHO DECIDED TO BECOME THE NADESICO'S HELMSMAN!!
BEFORE JOINING THE CREW, I WAS A SECRETARY WITH JOB SECURITY. I JUST COULDN'T STAND DOING THE ROUTINE, THE SAME THING DAY IN AND DAY OUT. THAT WAS THE FIRST TIME I MADE A DECISION ON MY OWN.
ARE THEY SAYING I CAN'T MAKE MY OWN CHOICES IN LIFE?! WHY DO OTHER PEOPLE DENY ME MY LIFE?!!
HA... HARU-KA...

YURIKA, YOU HAD A ROUGH TIME OF IT. IT'S TIME TO COME HOME NOW. I'VE SENT A FLIGHT TO PICK YOU UP. IT WILL LEAVE THE MOON IN TWO HOURS.
DAD...
DO YOU UNDERSTAND? COME HOME. THIS IS YOUR...
HOME IS WHERE I AM MEANT TO BE...
I AM SUPPOSED TO RETURN HOME...
IF I GO HOME, I BECOME A LITTLE GIRL TRAPPED IN A CAGE AGAIN.
IF I DID WHAT MY DAD SAID...BE A GOOD GIRL, LEARN MY PLACE IN LIFE, GET MARRIED WITH THE MAN MY FATHER CHOOSES, HAVE KIDS...
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME IN MY LIFE I DIDN'T LISTEN TO HIM AND DID SOMETHING ON MY OWN.
I GOT THE NADESICO, BUT SCREWED UP. WHAT WAS THE POINT OF GETTING THE NADESICO?

I NEED YOU. I WANT YOU TO GIVE ME YOUR POWER.
BUT I..
THE NADESICO IS GONE. THERE'S NOWHERE FOR YOU TO GO, AM I WRONG?
.....
I WANT YOU TO COME WITH ME.
GO WITH YOU.. WHERE? I THOUGHT YOU'RE GOING INTO THE MILITARY?
NO, I'M NOT.
FOR THE FIRST TIME, I HAVE NO INTEREST IN THE UNITED EARTH GOVERN-MENT.
THE ONLY THING I AM INTERESTED IN IS YOU, YURIKA MISUMARU.

TOMORROW AT TWELVE O'CLOCK... I'LL BE WAITING FOR YOU AT DORM 666
WHERE CAN I GO...? WHAT CAN I GO BACK TO...?
YURI-KA...
//
AKITO!!
TOK
AKITO!! THAT'S RIGHT! I STILL HAVE AKITO!!
I DO HAVE A PLACE TO GO!! AKITO WILL GIVE ME THE ANSWERS TO MY PROBLEMS!!

CLANG
CLANG
CLANG
CLANG
IT'S WEIRD LOOKING AT THE NADESICO NEXT TO THE KAGUYA.
MR. PROSPECTOR, ARE YOU GOING TO JOIN THE MILITARY TOO?
ACTUALLY, I'M OFF TO ASUKA INDUSTRIES. MY BOSS WAS TRANSFERRED THERE, SO I'M GOING TOO.
I NEED TO PROVIDE THE MILITARY WITH FEEDBACK ON ALL THE DATA THE NADESICO COLLECTED.
IT'S BEEN DECIDED I WILL SUPPORT ASUKA'S SIDE.

CLANG
CLANG
CLANG
HOW ABOUT MR. GORT?
HE'LL PROBABLY GO BACK TO THE MILITARY. IT WOULD BE BEST FOR HIM
I HEARD YOU ARE GOING TO STAY WITH THE NADESICO, MEGUMI.
IT'S NOT DEFINITE, BUT. YES.
THAT MEANS ONLY YURIKA, HARUKA AND AKITO ARE
YES, IT SEEMS .. BUT THERE'S NOTHING WE CAN DO ABOUT THIS

WHAT HAS GOT YOU SITTING ALONE IN A DARK ROOM THINKING?
!
98.
WELL...I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY I WAS GOING TO HELP SUPPORT AKITO TENKAWA AND GOT INTO HIS AESTI VALIS, BUT THERE WAS NO BATTLE.
I WAS CONNECTED WITH HIS AESTI VALIS, THEN THEY COULDN'T GET ME OUT OF IT
HI
WEL-COME HOME, 98.
I'M HOME, RURI. IT'S NICE TO HAVE A PLACE TO COME BACK TO.
BUT THERE ARE THOSE THAT DON'T...

YES, YOU'RE RIGHT. I..
IN THE BEGINNING, I DIDN'T HAVE A PLACE TO GO .. TO BE.
RURI HAS THE NADES-ICO.
THE NADESICO IS YOUR HOME, RIGHT?
YES.. THIS IS MY HOME, MY MOTHER AND MY FATHER.
THIS IS THE ONLY HOUSE I CAN BE EMBRACED BY...
THE NADES-ICO..
CLANG CLANG
CLANG CLANG

ACCORDING TO THE TERMINAL'S INFORMATION, AKITO'S ROOM SHOULD BE AROUND HERE...
THIS IS IT!
3621 AKITO TENKAWA
AKITO... WE CAN FINALLY SIT DOWN, RELAX AND TALK.
I HOPE YOU'LL TELL ME NOT TO WORRY.. THAT YOU'LL BE HERE FOR ME
!
STOCK
!!

Y... YURIKA!! WHY ARE YOU...?!
AKITO?
AH.. WAIT.. NOW IS NOT..
AKITO, WHAT'S WRONG?
AKITO, WHO'S THAT?
!?
HUH? NO.. IT'S JUST..
OH, ISN'T THAT YURIKA? HELLO.
HARUKA?!
YOU CAN'T...
HOW DARE YOU!!

AKITO... YOU CHEATER!!
DASH
HUH?! YURIKA, WAIT!! NO, THIS IS NOT...
YES, IT IS.
HUH!! WHAT ARE YOU...
WAIT, YURIKA!!
TOK
TOK
I..I REALLY DON'T HAVE ANY PLACE TO GO BACK TO - TO CALL MY OWN
I HATE AKITO, MY FATHER AND THE NADESICO!!

YURIKA!
YURIKA!
DAMN, WHERE IS SHE?
TOK TOK TOK TOK
OOPS!
WHUMP
YIKES!
SCATTER
RUSTLE
SORRY I'M SO SORRY.
ARE YOU OK?
RUSTLE
RUSTLE

!!
YOU SHOULDN'T RUN IN THIS AREA. REMEMBER THAT.
M... MO..
MOM...?
NO, IT CAN'T BE. MY MOTHER IS DEAD.
AND SHE WOULDN'T BE THAT YOUNG EITHER.
BE CARE-FUL!
YES, I WILL.
SHE LOOKS JUST LIKE MY MOM DID WHEN I WAS A KID.
SHE LOOKS EXACTLY LIKE HER

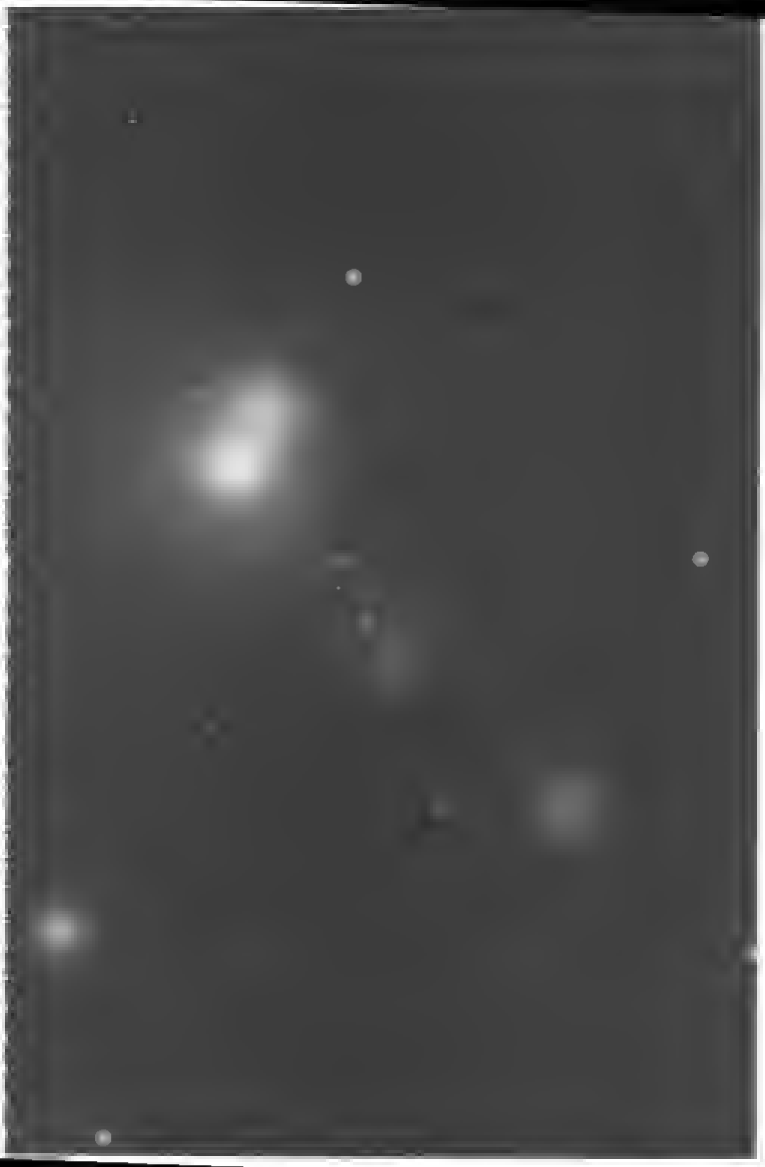
!!
OH, THAT'S RIGHT! YURIKA!!
TOK
I'M REALLY HAPPY THAT YOU'LL BE COMING WITH ME
INES! I.
LET'S GO COME WITH ME.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO SAY ANYTHING YOUR HEART IS FULL OF HOPELESS-NESS
DORM 666 INES... SHE'S THE ONLY ONE WHO REALLY NEEDS ME
I DON'T CARE ANYMORE... NO ONE CARES ABOUT ME ANYWAY..

WELCOME, YURIKA MISUMARU!! I'M HERE AS A REPRESENTATIVE OF ALL THE GODS OF THE YAMATO PANTHEON.

YAMATO PANTHEON. .? GODS. ?
YES YOU ARE THE ONE WHO SHALL LEAD THE GODS!
THERE ARE TWO JUPITERIAN FORTRESSES ABOVE MOON BASE D BLOCK, SECTION 231-51
HHHRRM
HHHRRM

JOIN ME, YURIKA MISUMARU..
NO.. I MEAN HIMIKO, OUR SHAMAN QUEEN..
YURIKA!!
TOKTOK
TO

End Book Two



Pacific
Oc

COMPARISON of
FAIR

NADESICO: A Special Dialogue

Unpublished Designs

Mika AKITAKA
Mechanical Designer
明貴美加

VS

Kia ASAMIYA
麻宮騎亜

Now, the secrets behind the making of Nadesico, Space Battleship, revealed!!

—Mr. Asamiya, you created the characters for Nadesico and Mr. Akitaka, you created the mechanicals for the anime version. How did you two meet?

Akitaka We had a mutual friend who insisted that we meet, so we did. I was a freelancer at Sunrise at the time.

Asamiya That was about eight years ago, around the time of the 1st or 2nd episode of Silent Moebius.

—. –How did you come to work on Nadesico together?

Akitaka King Records producer Ohtsuki asked me if I'd like to work on Mr. Akahori's 1995 New Year's Eve party and I said, "Sounds good." That's how it all started.

Asamiya. Mr. Ohtsuki asked me if I wanted to work on the project, too, and I said, "I'd love to." Two days later I got a call from him saying it's a go.

Akitaka As it turns out Mr. Ohtsuka had been thinking about the idea of Nadesico for a long time. He'd been wanting to work on a story with robots like Evangelion and Votoms, etc. It sounded great to me, but once we started I realized it was a whole different product.

.... Wasn't the comic book based on the anime version?

Asamiya I thought the beginning should be the same as the anime.

Akitaka But it's rare for Kia Asamiya to work on TV and comics at the same time.

Asamiya The funny thing is, a lot of people thought it was my original work. But it wasn't.

Akitaka I get questions all the time like, "The design of the Yamato/Nadesico in the comics is different from the anime. How do you feel about this?" (grin)

Asamiya Akitaka designed the Yamato/Nadesico for the comic book version, too. (grin)

Akitaka That's the design I had originally wanted.

In the middle of planning for the TV anime version, I suggested attaching a big gun and adding an additional unit. That unit came to be known as Yamato. It started out being called Yamato/Nadesico. Then we decided to drop Yamato and stick with just Nadesico. So Nadesico became the tentative title.

Asamiya The staff got used to calling it by its tentative title. That's how we decided on the title Nadesico. (grin)

So even though we hadn't decided on the TV title yet, we decided on the Space Battleship title for the manga.

Mika Akitaka

A member of Red Company. He made his debut as mechanical designer for the computer game Plasty. After that he worked on the mechanicals for Mobile Suit Gundam Z and the stage version of Silent Moebius.

"Since the name of the battleship was the title, it had to be clear that the design was entirely different from any of the other Earth battleships. Otherwise it wouldn't have worked."

Does the original Space Battleship character, 98 (Kyupacht), have the same dreams as Ruri?

(...Mr. Akitaka was asked to work on designs at the time the Nadesico comic book made a departure from the original anime.)

Asamiya: Mr. Akitaka laid the foundation for Nadesico. Without Mr. Akitaka, Nadesico wouldn't have happened.

Akitaka: Hey, thanks.

Asamiya: The reason the Aesti Valis is a little different in the comic version is we only had a rough draft to go on and that's what we based it on.

Akitaka: The overall differences in the comic version weren't a problem at all if the sponsors had insisted they be exactly the same, we would have had to fix it.

...Who's idea was 98?

Akitaka: Actually, we were on the phone with each other in the middle of the night and we decided it would be good to have a droid. (grin) So that's where it came from.

Asamiya: We did a lot of talking and figured it would be good to make 98 a state-of-the-art robot. It was a pretty good set up.

Akitaka: Ruri designed the mother board for Uribatake... but Uribatake probably assembled it. In other words, it was another Ruri. On the inside.

...Like a talkative Ruri?

Akitaka: That's probably the best way to describe it. And 98 built his own seat in the Aesti Valis.

Asamiya: He took the spot right behind the neck of Akito's Aesti Valis. Just like in Star Wars. But it was also in the cockpit.

Akitaka: And 98 really likes Akito, right? So that's why he's always following him around.

Asamiya: Actually, he's a very dutiful robot. Also, Ruri created him and there are two shots of them together.

"Mr. Akitaka laid the foundation for Nadesico. Without Mr. Akitaka, Nadesico wouldn't have happened."

Kia Asamiya

After creating a minor six-page manga that impressed an editor, he made his debut with Space Vagrant. His most well known works include Silent Moebius, Dark Angel, Steam Detectives, etc.

Kia Asamiya's World, Mika Akitaka's World

...How was exabyte born?

Asamiya On the original mechanicals the name wasn't Aesti Valis. Mr. Akitaka was tentatively calling it exabyte.

Akitaka There were some restrictions on what I could do on TV, so I made up for it in the comic book.

...And the Reaction System made a comeback, didn't it?

Asamiya It's a pretty scary system that lets you become one with a robot. Commands from the brain are carried through the spine to the robot, not to you.

Akitaka If you read Silent Mochius you'll understand the Reaction System.

Asamiya The five senses make a complete digital transformation. Even the sense of smell and taste are transformed. So the Aesti Valis can smell. (grin) How about some food...?

...Will we be seeing a new exabyte or some other new machines?

Akitaka We have a few variations so we might use them in the comic book version.

Asamiya The Nadesico will remain as it is now.

Akitaka Because of scheduling problems, we couldn't get Yamato/Nadesico into the TV version. So I asked Mr. Asamiya about it and he said, "Let's use the Yamato in the comic version."

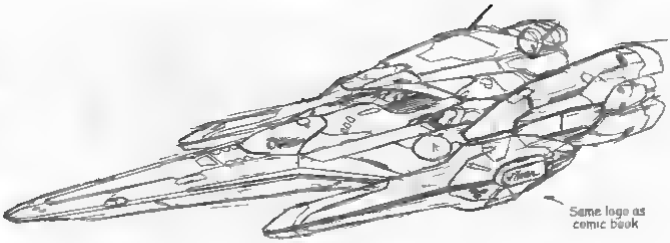
Asamiya When I saw the design, I thought it was really cool.

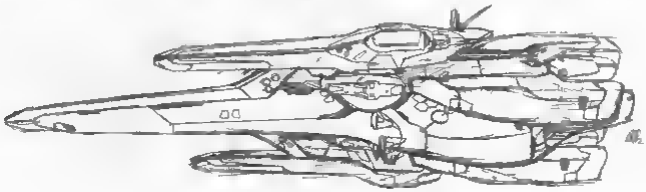
Akitaka It's based on a real Japanese battleship. Asamiya wanted it to be equipped with cannons.

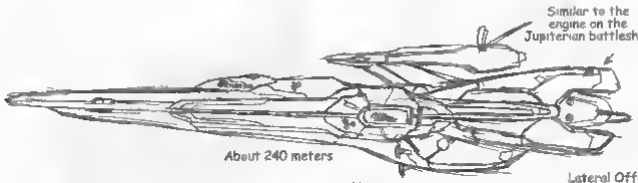
Asamiya It has a mobile, internal cannon which I was thinking was pretty good because it's quite distinctive.

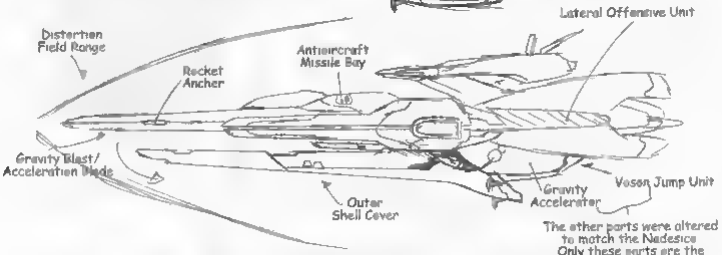
Akitaka In the TV version, too, I had to make Nadesico completely different from the other Earth battleships. Since it was the title, if the distinction wasn't clear, it wouldn't have worked.

...Thank you for taking the time to meet with me. All the best to both of you.



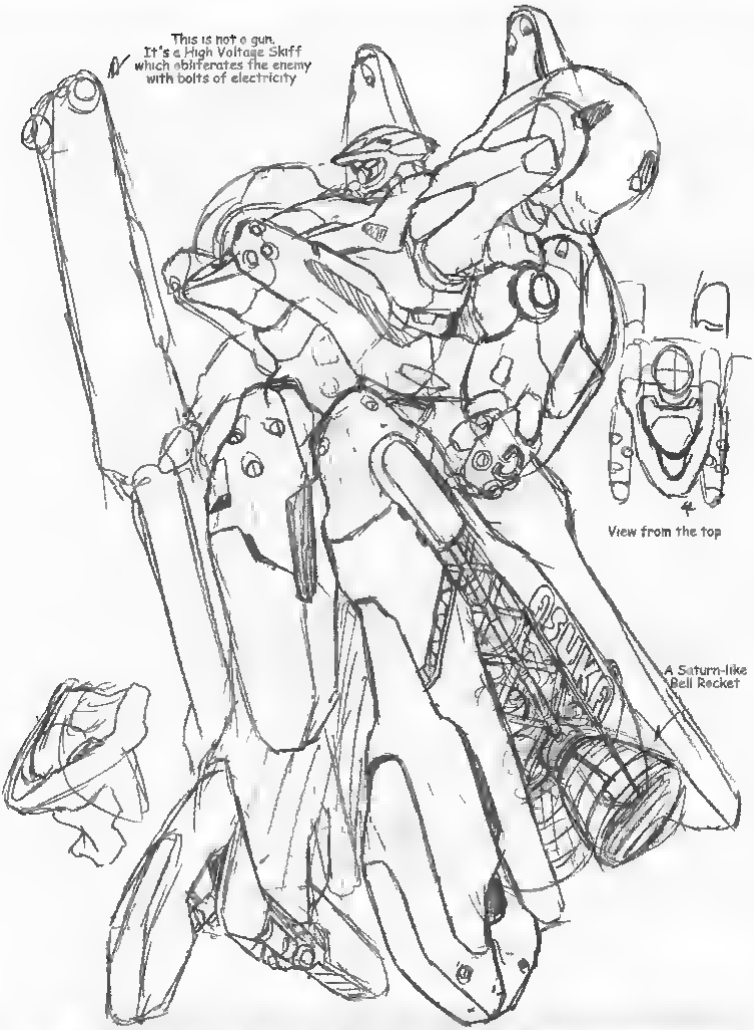





Distortion Field Range
Rocket Ancher
Antiaircraft Missile Bay
Lateral Offensive Unit
Gravity Blast/ Acceleration Blade
Outer Shell Cover
Gravity Accelerator
Vosen Jump Unit
The other parts were altered to match the Nadesico Only these parts are the same as the original

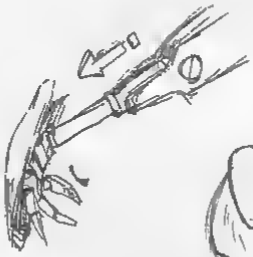
Nadesico's design was based on technology that was excavated from Mars. That's why the anime version of Nadesico and the Jupiterian battleship engine are similar. So then we had to give some thought to the comic book version. Unlike the Nadesico, whose main body is designed with straight lines, the Yamato Unit's bottom half has curved lines. The parts that link and the new parts are designed with straight lines.

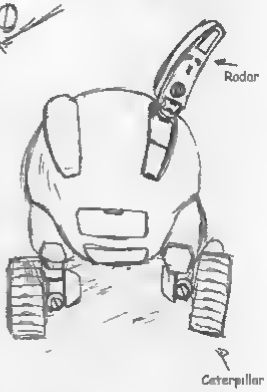
Comment Mika Akitaka

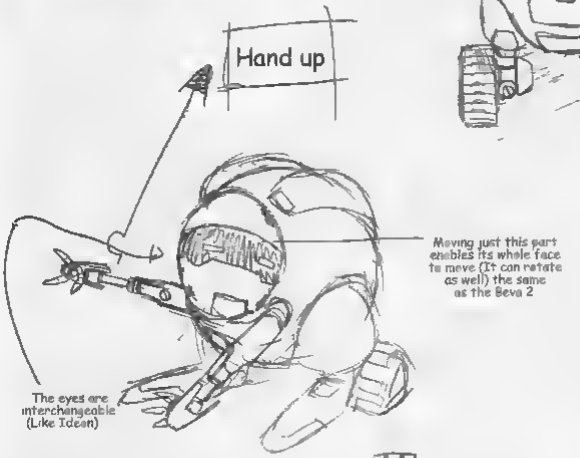


Mr. Asamiya wanted me to make it without legs. Legs aren't needed in outer space so we decided to make the unit with just the torso. This torso is highly mechanized so we haven't decided how the side parts will be used yet. They're going to be either weapons or a defense system or both.

We came up with this character one night when we were goofing around and saying that a space story's got to have a robotic mascot (grin) Ruri designed it and Uribatake assembled it. It's packed with all sorts of droid elements and technology from the Aesti Valis is included in its caterpillar legs






Hand up
Moving just this part enables its whole face to move (It can rotate as well) the same as the Beva 2
The eyes are interchangeable (Like Idean)

M-296.12

Meteor Schlachtschiff **NADESICO**

VOL.2

DIRECTED BY **KIA ASAMIYA** (STUDIO TRON)
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MAR[illegible]ION **SUMID TAKEDA** (TAREDA DESIRN)
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SATDRU KAWARAGI
COMPUTERS **WORKS MICRITAKA KIKUCHI** (STDDIO TRDR)

SPECIAL THANKS
KEREC
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ANIMATION STAFF FDR NADESICD
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ARD ALL READERS

BOLD SAMURAI AND BRAVE SPACESHIP CAPTAINS FROM MANGA SUPERSTAR KIA ASAMIYA

NADESICO

MARTIAN SUCCESSOR NADESICO is a fast-paced, offbeat, science fiction manga. When Mars is attacked by alien invaders, the United Earth government finds itself almost defenseless. The great space battleship Nadesico is built and sent into space, manned by Captain Yurika Misamaru and a crew primarily composed of strong and beautiful women. Humor and drama mix as we follow the crew's battles with the aliens, with each other, and with the government of Earth!

DARK ANGEL

DARK ANGEL tells the tale of Dark, a young swordsman, and his quest to find the truth about his past. Accompanied by Kyo, his winged female companion they set off on a dangerous journey to unravel the mysteries and uncover the secrets that haunt his past. Dark Angel is fantasy at its best, with some of the most exciting and beautiful art Asamiya has ever done.

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Kia Asamiya is an internationally-recognized modern master of sequential art, the creator of multiple series of top-selling comic books and graphic novels in Japan whose work is being translated and published around the world, and whose talent and vision have attracted American readers and publishers to an extraordinary degree over the past decade. Born in Tokyo in 1963, Asamiya's first international success was Silent Möbius, which became an instant hit in Japan, and was the basis for several anime movies and a television series. His fast-paced, offbeat science fiction comic series Nadesico is filled with knowing references to other anime and manga, and became one of Japan's best-selling comics of the 1990s. The anime series based on the comics was equally successful, both in Japan and in America.

In addition to his mastery of manga and Japanese comic art and animation traditions, he is equally knowledgeable about and enthusiastic for the comic art of the United State. Among American comics, he has particular interest in and respect for the works done about the character Batman, and he has assembled one of the largest collections of Batman memorabilia in Japan. He has also started writing and illustrating Batman, the first time a comic series based on the character has been done in Japan. His wide range of interests includes an interest in the works of many individual American comic artists and illustrators, including Mike Mignola, Bruce Timm, Alex Ross, Bill Sienkiewicz, and Jim Lee.

A frequent visitor to the United States and a popular American convention guest, he is the founder of his own studio, Studio Tron.